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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

Records of the Government of India.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

No. LIX.

REPORT

ON THE

POLITICAL ADMINISTRATION

OF

RAJPOOTANA,

FOR THE YEARS 1865-6 and 1866-7.

PART II.

00110131

ADM
351.54
Ind I Rep
110131

Published by Authority.

CALCUTTA:
PRINTED AT THE FOREIGN DEPARTMENT PRESS,
7, COUNCIL HOUSE STREET.

1867.

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POLITICAL ADMINISTRATION

OF

THE RAJPOOTANA STATES.

MEYWAR AGENCY REPORT.

From MAJOR J. P. NIXON, Political Agent, Meywar, to COLONEL W. F. EDEN, Agent to the Governor General for the States of Rajpootana,—No. 17-1P., dated Oodeypore, the 21st February 1867.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1410, dated 3rd December 1866, as also your subsequent letter, No. 83, dated 22nd January 1867, calling for a Report of the administration of the States subordinate to this Agency for the years 1865-66 and 1866-67.

2. In the month of November 1865 the Maha Rana Shumbhoo Singh of Oodeypore was publicly installed, and the administration of the Meywar State made over to him, and he has since been carrying on the Government with his own hands. Many efforts have been made by several parties about the Court to get him to discontinue doing the work of his government himself, and appoint a Prime Minister to the duty. Much argument has been used to show that all former Ranas have had Ministers, and that it is derogatory to the position of the Chief of Meywar to govern his country himself, but I have strenuously urged on the young Chief the necessity and advisability of his retaining the management of affairs in his own hands, and he has hitherto done so, although I feel that he finds the task both irksome and tiresome. There has been a tendency of his advisers to counsel him to revert to the old system of management in vogue in Maha Rana Suroop Singh's time, and gradually several of the subordinate officials nominated to posts in the Foujdaree and Dewanee Courts have been removed, and their places occupied by old Durbar officials, or left vacant. I have not thought it advisable to interfere in these proceedings; but measures were contemplated for the abolition of the resallas of horse recruited by us, and as that was likely to have an influence on the peace of the country, I used my influence with the Maha Rana to ensure their retention.

3. Pundit Luchmun Rao is the working member of the Durbar. Moota Gokul Chund has gone to his charge of Mandulgurh, but

the chief adviser of the Maha Rana is Thakoor Zalim Singh of Beemallee.

4. During the month of September last a very serious affray occurred between the Rajah of Bunera, a feudatory in Meywar, and the Rao of Deogurh, in which 13 men lost their lives and 22 men were wounded.. I immediately requested the Maha Rana to attach the villages regarding which the dispute arose, and I subsequently made it my duty to visit the scene of the affray. It appears that the Rao of Deogurh some 60 years ago obtained possession of the village of Burra Roylah from the Durgah of Ajmere by a mortgage bond, and this village abuts on the possessions of the Rajah of Bunera. The Deogurh Chief built a very large and strong fort on the lands of Burra Roylah, and taking advantage of times of anarchy has possessed himself of a very large area of country. Originally 3,000 beegas of land was given as a grant in lieu of a money equivalent of 800 Shah Allum Shahee Rupees per annum, and the Rao of Deogurh still pays that sum to the Durgah at Ajmere. There was a great deal of litigation on the subject of this village, and the people of the Durgah have more than once complained to our officers and endeavoured to obtain possession. The Oodeypore Durbar has also been long trying to repossess itself of Burra Roylah, and objects to a Sirdar of the Durbar having got possession of a village and fort in the middle of Meywar, from whence he can become an aggressor in a time of difficulty. Moreover, the Durbar demurs to the Rao of Deogurh holding it, on the ground that it was given to the Durgah on an "Istumrar" tenure, which was capable of being set aside, whereas the village being held by one of the Chondawut clan and brethren of the Sesodeea tribe, is likely to alter the tenure and make its resumption difficult.

5. I have refrained from taking any cognizance of the dispute further than to visit the spot, and endeavour to discover which party was the aggressor, and to show both sides that the British Government entirely disapproves of the outrages which occur so often between the petty Chiefs of Meywar, whose rebellious and arrogant spirit has never hitherto been properly controlled or quelled. Twenty years ago, when the Rajah of Bunera was weaker than he is now, the Rao of Deogurh built a bund and made a tank in land claimed by Lambeea of Bunera. The dispute has been going on for years without culminating to an outbreak until lately, and indeed large trees have grown upon the bund made by the Rao of Deogurh, and though I believe that the latter originally got possession improperly, still in the present instance the Rajah of Bunera was undoubtedly the aggressor. A Durbar official has been deputed to settle the dispute, but I greatly doubt his ability to do so. It not being a matter of international nature, of course it does not come within the scope of our jurisdiction.

6. Since I have given over the reins of administration, I can see a perceptible difference in the state of the country. Whilst our hand controlled them the dacoits and predatory tribes which infest Meywar were held in check, but now dacoitees from bands of robbers who are harboured in Neembhaira of Tonk and Scindhia's district of Jawud Neemuch often occur. This is, however, partially our own fault, and the Meywar Durbar may justly lay some of the disorganization at our door, and the acts which gave back the districts of Neembhaira to

Tonk and Jawud Neemuch to Scindhia's governments must be considered as the root and ground of the evil, which I consider will continue to fester until it is again placed under the government of a British Officer. In the middle of Meywar we have since 1857 reorganized two Native States, that of Jawud Neemuch of Scindhia and the pergunnah of Neembhaira of Tonk, and it can scarcely be supposed that aught but anarchy can exist. Both these territories are entirely detached from Gwalior and Tonk. The consequence is every Hakim sent to govern only looks for the opportunity to enrich himself, and whenever any offence occurs he fines the thieves, who immediately enter Meywar to plunder to pay these fines. Strong repressive measures have been organized by Meywar, but until British superintendence is exercised I see no chance of any permanent alteration.

7. In 1857 the Nawab of Tonk's retainer, named Bukshee Gholam Moheeoodeen Khan, who was the Hakim of Neembhaira, went into open rebellion against the British Government, and at the head of a number of Valayatees, Mewatees, and Mukranees besieged the garrison of Neemuch, for which the pergunnah of Neembhaira was confiscated and temporarily made over to Meywar, which had remained friendly to our interests. This pergunnah belonged to, and is surrounded by, Meywar territory. In 1860, however, it was restored to Tonk, and Rupees 5,50,000 levied from Meywar to reimburse Tonk for the revenue collected. We have now three Native States to deal with instead of two, and the anarchy which must necessarily ensue, where isolated villages belong to different Durbars, can easily be imagined.

8. But if it became necessary to hand over these territories and population to Tonk and Scindhia, it is quite clear that very little foresight was exercised when we omitted to take some guarantee for good government, and neglected to treat for the maintenance of a sufficient police force to suppress crime. The labours of our Political Officers were for years directed to remove the Mahrattas from Rajpootana, and I can never cease to lament the fact that Lord Canning's government without reference to the Rajpootana authorities gave them a foothold again in these territories. Neemuch was a base of action from whence the whole of the adjacent territory was gradually being humanized and civilized, and we have senselessly and gratuitously allowed it to pass out of our hands.

9. The arrogance and insolence of the petty Chiefs in Meywar is perhaps without parallel in India, but of all those who have displayed hostility the Rao of Kotaria will bear pre-eminence. I think it right to record his conduct towards you personally for the benefit of others who may have to deal with him. On the Durbar officials going to his village of Nemoonah to pitch your camp in November 1865 he resisted it, and threatened to cut them down if your camp was brought to his village, and so intimidated them that I, with your concurrence, at once directed the attachment of one of his villages by way of punishment. The Maha Rana confirmed the attachment, and I must hope that the village will not be restored, at all events during the present Rao of Kotaria's lifetime. Another act of contumacy was his insolence in giving sanctuary to Mehta Shere Singh, formerly a Minister of this Durbar, and whom you will recollect as the Hakim of Chittoregurh. This individual collected the revenue of the pergunnah

and then refused to pay the proceeds into the treasury, and took sanctuary with the Rao of Kotaria, and he is still a defaulter to the amount of about Rupees 1,50,000. On my expressing my intention of moving the Rana to punish the Kotaria Chief by collecting the revenue from his estate the defaulter fled to the house of the Rao of Suloomber, where he now is.

10. The Rao of Kotaria never pays the slightest attention to any orders he receives from his Durbar, and indeed the majority of his class observe a defiant attitude towards the authority of their Chief, and are one and all ready at any moment to coalesce against any exercise of interference when they misbehave themselves.

11. Some of the Thakoors harbour thieves or take a share of stolen property *sub rosâ*, this arises from their clanship. Often it is done under the plea of affording sanctuary which we recognised in the "Koul Nameh" drawn up in 1855. With such an active element of disorganization, one can only look to time and example to expect good government.

12. Every petty Chief exercises the power of a despot in his own territory, and arrogates to himself criminal and judicial powers, which are only limited by his own will. Under these circumstances we can hardly call upon the Maha Rana or expect him to enforce good government. Whenever anything is attempted against one of these petty Chiefs he shelters himself under the wings of "Kadeem Dustoor." The "Koul Nameh" has cemented misgovernment in Meywar, and the sooner it is abrogated by us and full power given to the Maha Rana to exact obedience and evolve order from his turbulent Sirdars the better for Meywar. One of the chief characteristics of the petty Chiefs is their indebtedness, and their repudiation of their debts is a constant source of irritation.

13. In 1857 the Chief of Amait, Pirthee Singh, died, and his widow adopted Ammur Singh. Three months afterwards the present Chief of Amait, Chutter Singh, taking advantage of the disturbances attacked the fort of Amait, ejected Ammur Singh, and killed his brother Puddum Singh, and took possession of the jageer. The Maha Rana during my absence at Agra has recognised and given Ammur Singh, the Chief of Amait, his seat in the Durbar, and it is not improbable that a complication will occur, and Chutter Singh, who usurped the jageer, will be eventually displaced. That the adoption of Ammur Singh was perfectly legal is undoubted. This is proved by the fact of the widow of Pirthee Singh, the Mairtenejee flying with Ammur Singh to Suloomber, taking her infant daughter with her. I have had a remonstrance from Chutter Singh on this subject, but it is a dispute in which I am not inclined to interfere. Chutter Singh since his usurpation of the jageer has neither paid Chuttoond or any of the raj dues as you are aware.

14. In October last the young Maha Rana, acting under the advice of those about him, went to Suloomber to pay the usual visit of condolence to the Suloomber Chief, Jodh Singh, and bring him to the capital. The non-performance of this ceremony by the late Maha Rana Suroop Singh has caused a combination of the Chondawut clan against his rule, and was one of the points of difficulty which beset the late Maha Rana during his reign.

15. The succession to the Suloomber guddee is still contested by the Bhudeser Chief, Bhopal Singh, and he had the impertinence to inform me he would make disturbance if he was not elected to the guddee of Suloomber. My own opinion is that he has no more claim to it than I have, he being himself an adoption from the village of Chawundeea, and therefore, according to Hindoo law and Rajpoot usage, could not be adopted again. The Shastras only recognise one adoption, and the Thakoors of Meywar have always acknowledged the right of the widow to adopt. I therefore cannot give ear to his plaint.

16. I have recently visited the hilly tracts of Meywar, which are at present under the superintendence of Major Mackeson, an officer of great local experience amongst the Bheels; he is officiating for Major Mackenzie, who is absent on sick leave to England. We have done somewhat to civilize and humanize the Bheel tribes in these districts, but they are a very lawless race, and the Maha Rana, having civil jurisdiction whilst we have military control, makes difficulties which I have been trying to diminish by counselling His Highness to throw more power into the hands of the Superintendent. I took the new Hakim Amroot Rao with me to Khairwarra, and he has received orders to act in comformity with the wishes of the Superintendent, and Major Mackeson has been instructed to watch and see that he does not oppress the Bheels. The Bheels are often ill-treated by the Durbar Officials, but that can scarcely be wondered at as they are very intractable, and always ready for any deed of violence. A fertile cause of the disorders in these tracts arises from the quarrels of the Bheels amongst themselves regarding land, marriages, &c. All the Thakoors in the hilly tracts are in the habit of keeping Valayatees and Mukranees to coerce their disorderly subjects. I conclude that the whole of the hilly tracts of Meywar contain a population of 2,00,000 Bheels. There are altogether in the tracts of Meywar, Doongurpore, Banswarra, and Pertabgurh 16 clans or tribes of Bheels named in the margin, those in the neighbourhood of Khairwarra and the outpost at Kotra, over which we have exercised the most influence, are perceptibly more tractable than the others. On the high road between Khairwarra and Oodeypore there has been a murder during the past year perpetrated by the Bheels of the Kurbur Pal. To check inroads of this nature I have directed the dense jungle between Peepleea and Pershad to be cut down on either side of the road, and small detachments of Sikh horse have been stationed at these two points to patrol. There is a fair road for wheeled carriages between Oodeypore and Khairwarra, which is much traversed by pilgrims from Guzerat who visit the Jain shrines of Rikubnath, Eklingiee, Nathdwara, and Kankrowlie.

Abora.	Kalhahood.
Dharpotee.	Muchar.
Damore.	Tijwur.
Mahera.	Goda Damor.
Nynamu.	Kurraree.
Doodowut.	Pargee.
Bahnawut.	Damah.
Aharee.	Baburreea.

17. The revenue of the hilly tracts is about 1,60,00 Shah Allum Shahee Rupees per annum, and there is a force of 140 horse and 550 foot kept up. Besides this there are 45 Durbar sowars at Khairwarra and on the road.

18. Jehazpore is the pergunnah of Meywar inhabited by the Meena tribe. It formerly gave a great deal of trouble to the Durbar,

but it has gradually been pacified since the Kotah Contingent was stationed at Deolie. When the Kotah Contingent mutinied the Deolie Irregular Force was raised, and Meenas were enlisted in the infantry. There is a force of Sikh horse and also two squadrons of the 2nd Bengal Cavalry stationed there, and it has been the means of keeping the country in very good order. One murder has occurred lately at the village of Teekur. Lieutenant Bruce, Political Agent, Haraotie, exercises a general supervision over this pergunnah of Meywar, and at his solicitation I have urged on the Durbar the necessity of the remission of the heavy fines imposed on the Meenas for their disorderly acts in consideration of their recent good behaviour. The Maha Rana has consented to waive these fines, and I hope it will be an encouragement for future good conduct.

19. Since my last report a girls' school has been established at the capital under the superintendence of two Native matrons; there are 51 pupils.

20. The boys' school is very numerously attended, there are no less than 513 students. Mr. Robson, the Missionary from Ajmere, recently visited it, and examined the boys, and spoke very highly of the institution, but suggested that a larger number of teachers should be employed. English is taught and eagerly learnt by the pupils.

21. The Maha Rana of Oodeypore has addressed me a letter regarding that portion of the Mugra Mairwarra which was made over to us in 1833, and requesting its restoration. I annex a translation of His Highness's khureeta. The Treaty entered into about this strip of territory will be found at page 13, Vol. IV., of the book of Treaties. During the disturbances the Durbar of Oodeypore remained faithful to our cause, and succoured our fugitives from Neemuch, and by its example, as the leading Rajpoot family in India, kept many, who wavered, staunch to our interests. I would therefore solicit your consideration of the matter, especially as to whether the time has arrived for the restoration to Meywar of its territory and the fulfilment of the agreement of 7th March 1833; but it must not be concealed that the redemption of our pledge with the Oodeypore Government would again throw into rebellion the Mhairs and Mhairwats of the Mugra Mhairwarra, for it is useless to hope that any Native Government can govern satisfactorily predatory tribes whom we have reclaimed, and I would therefore counsel that the Durbar be informed that the restoration can never be conceded , and thus the question be set at rest for ever.

22. In May last year Colonel Meade in a letter, No. 562, dated 21st idem, complained that a number of people in Meywar were collected at Dholapanee, and from thence disturbing the peace of the country. I moved the Durbar to send 50 of the police horse to the spot, but the individuals who had collected were not to be found there, and had fled back to Central India, from whence they came, and where, I am informed, they were subsequently captured. To read Colonel Meade's letter you would suppose that the people disturbing the peace of the country were Meywar subjects, whereas they belonged to Scindhia.

23. Again a complaint came in a letter, No. 295, dated 7th April 1866, stating that the banghy mails were being robbed by plunderers from Rajpootana. I am now credibly informed that the delinquents

were captured, and turned out to be Scindhia's own servants. Differences of this nature will occasionally crop up, as we are always prone to believe that the evil acts of the subjects of Native States over which we have control are committed by their neighbours, and the Durbars are very clever and artful in inducing such a belief. The great want in all these territories is a larger staff of Political Officers, and the sooner this is urged on the Government the better. If the Government is unwilling to bear the expense, the Native States should be made to do so, for it is for their interest and benefit that they are appointed. At all events it is high time that some expedient should be adopted to check disorder, which increased and close supervision will alone effect.

24. The Maha Rana of Oodeypore has at my desire directed the removal of the indecent images which during the time of the *Hoolee* were prominent in the bazaars of Oodeypore, and has also discontinued the barbarous practice of having a goat sacrificed when he leaves the capital. Personally the Maha Rana is very tractable, and appreciates our efforts even when directed against what might be considered the ceremonies of his religion with very good feeling.

Roads.

25. There has been a new road marked out and defined to Rajnuggur, and it will be metalled in due course. From Beawur on the north to Khairwarra on the south, a distance of 200 miles, there was not a single highway for wheeled vehicles through the Ardhabullee range of mountains which separate Meywar from Marwar. I therefore, as reported in my former despatch dated 6th December 1865, No. 138, made a road through the range. This work has, I am happy to say, now been completed, and it has stood the test of last year's rains. It is a useful highway, and great convenience to people passing between Central India and Marwar, and through which the whole traffic of Western India will eventually flow; and as Marwar supplies Central India with salt, this road has already become one of considerable importance.

Vide Financial Statement marked A.

26. The finances of the Durbar exhibit a gross revenue during the past year of Shah Allum Shahee Rupees 26,61,272-15-7¼, and the expenditure amounted to Shah Allum Shahee Rupees 26,85,729-1-2¼. There was thus a deficiency of income over expenditure of Shah Allum Shahee Rupees 24,456-1-7, but this will be rectified during the current year, as the Maha Rana has established a regular budget for expenditure, and seems to be very careful and frugal in his habits. A very large sum of money according to custom has been devoted to charity, such as presents to Brahmins, &c., *viz.*, Rupees 1,00,970; but the Maha Rana has proposed to devote a great proportion of this to roads and only allow a percentage to the Brahmins. The balance in the Rung Bhuwun Treasury has remained untouched, and exhibits the sum of Shah Allum Shahee Rupees 30,04,541-1-3 in reserve: altogether the finances of the Durbar are in a flourishing state.

Doongurpore.

27. Doongurpore is a petty State, situated due south of the Meywar hilly tracts, and adjoins them, and the country is of the same jungly and hilly character. It is inhabited by the same class of Bheels who are quite as lawless as those of Meywar. Doongurpore, the capital, which

nestles at the base of a hill, is situated 14 miles south-east of our station of Khairwarra. Some 10 miles beyond the capital there is a fine undulating plain, which is fairly sprinkled with villages, and which bears the impress of having once been very flourishing. The Mahrattas desolated the province for a series of years, and the majority of the inhabitants fled for safety to Guzerat. This plain is fairly cultivated and is well watered, but the inhabitants still live in a very insecure state owing to the terror inspired by the incursions from the Bheels which surround them. I can, however, see a very great improvement in the state of the country by comparison with my former visit to it 14 years ago. Agriculture is evidently extending very much, and parts of the country which were covered with jungle are now being gradually brought under the plough. The ruler of Doongurpore is Maha Rawul Oodey Singh, a young man of about 28 years of age, an offshoot of the Oodeypore family. He is very intelligent, and governs his country with a strong hand owing greatly to the support he receives from us, being in such close contact with our officers at Khairwarra. He is at variance with his Thakoors, as is usual with all the Chiefs in Rajpootana. The Rawul is now aiming at taking the criminal and civil jurisdiction out of the hands of his Thakoors. As they have for many years past held these powers, they naturally enough resist any encroachment on the part of their ruler, especially as they exercise the privilege of fining their own subjects. This, in fact, is the great bone of contention. I am of opinion that we should, as far as possible, support the Rawul in his views, and not allow these petty Chiefs to exercise irresponsible powers, but the time has not yet come for us to interfere, as the Thakoors have the means of creating disturbances which the Rawul certainly has not the power to quell; indeed of this I am quite satisfied as the Bheel Pal of Dewul, situated on the high road between Khairwarra and Doongurpore, went into rebellion, and he was unable to punish these refractory subjects without our aid, and a detachment of the Meywar Bheel Corps was sent out for the purpose of coercing them.

28. In conversation the Maha Rawul mentioned that the tribute exacted from him of 35,000 Shah Allum Shahee Rupees was a great deal too much, as I must be aware that his territory only yielded Rupees 1,25,312-8 under our management. Assuming that Doongurpore only yields Rupees 1,25,312-8, which was the amount we collected in 1853 during the minority when it was under our superintendence, there is no doubt that the tribute is high if not excessive, and it requires the exercise of thrift and management to prevent this State getting into debt. Under this view I would not hesitate to recommend its reduction, as an excessive impost is sure to lead to extortion, and I leave it to you to consider what steps should be taken in the matter. Perhaps the appointment of a British Officer specially for the States of Doongurpore, Banswarra, and Pertabgurh would aid in developing their resources, and not necessitate reduction. In a short time the railway works to Neemuch will be in operation in these territories, and a more intimate supervision and active suppression of disorder will become necessary, and I conceive there will be a real necessity for an additional officer to be appointed as an assistant in Banswarra and Doongurpore and Pertabgurh, and I think that some portion of the tribute which is collected from these States *"for protection"*

should go towards the payment of a British Officer, whose presence would be a great and lasting benefit. The Pertabgurh tribute is collected by us for Holkar, and this might fairly be taxed to the extent of 25 per cent. to meet the expenditure incurred by the appointment of an officer. I do not think that we are to go on continually collecting this latter without some remuneration. Strictly speaking, this tribute under the 4th Article of the Treaty of Mundisore, dated 16th October 1818, belongs to us, and is merely paid to Holkar in consideration of the loss of political influence after the Treaty of Mundisore.

29. On the borders of Pertabgurh, Banswarra, and Doongurpore the Central India Agency has no less than three officers,—the Political Agent, Western Malwa, the Native Superintendent of Rutlam, and the Bheel Agent of Bhopawur, and the Bombay Government has the Agent to the Governor in the Punch Mahals and the Political Agent of the Rewa Kanta and the Political Agent of the Mahee Kanta, and the latter officers have assistants under them, whereas I have none in either Pertabgurh, Banswarra, or Doongurpore. Major Mackeson, the Officiating Commandant of the Meywar Bheel Corps, is my assistant in civil matters as regard Meywar, and I continually avail myself of his services in Doongurpore as he is so near the spot, and consequently exercises considerable influence in the affairs of that Durbar, but he receives no pay for his civil duties. He is, however, very zealous, and takes a deep interest in the wild tribes with whom he has been so long associated, and is well qualified for his position, having a more intimate knowledge of them than any man now in the department. The second in command of the corps is my second assistant, and receives Rupees 100 per mensem, but he is stationed 90 miles west of Khairwarra at the outpost of Kotra, and is not available for duty away from his post. The appointment is now vacant owing to Captain Battye having a second time proceeded to England. Under these circumstances, I should be glad if you can concur with me in the desirability of another assistant being appointed to this Agency, and recommend the same to Government. Should this measure be carried out, I request that the officer appointed may be a capable and selected officer, who will not mind living in the jungles alone. Formerly, the nomination to these appointments rested with the Political Agent in Meywar, and I conceive that this prerogative should not be withdrawn for very obvious reasons.

30. There is a good road from Khairwarra to Doongurpore, and thence on to the banks of the Mahee in the direction of Banswarra, which my advent caused to be thoroughly repaired. I regret, however, to find that the arrangements made by us for the safety of this highway by the Durbar subsidising the Bheel Pals which flank the road has been withdrawn, and the incentive to secure the safety of travellers has vanished. I spoke to the Maha Rawul on this subject, but I do not think he will revive the custom without some pressure. To give an idea of the lawlessness of the country, I would mention that last year the Bheels of the Maddo Pal plundered the Rawul's property when he was making a tour of his country, and secured as booty his silver pots and pans. He, however, I am happy to say, recovered his goods; but the Bheels are outlaws in Meywar, and instead of cultivating their fields are living by plunder. Taken altogether, the

hilly tracts of Meywar, Doongurpore, Banswarra, and part of Pertabgurh are the most backward and lawless in all India. They did not touch my camp, but I am informed that a former Political Agent passing through had his camp followers looted more than once.

31. The administration of justice in Doongurpore is carried on by a Mahomedan named Nizam-ood-deen, but there is no regular Court, and everything is conducted according to the will of the Maha Rawul. The Minister's name is Neehal Chund; he seems a good Durbar official. The Maha Rawul has a son aged 9 years. I have failed to obtain a statement of the finances of the Doongurpore Durbar as yet.

Banswarra.

32. Banswarra is the Native State adjoining and lying to the eastward of Doongurpore. The centre portion from the River Mahee to the capital is a fertile tract of country well watered and fairly inhabited, but the hills and jungles which surround, and in parts cut into the fertile part, are filled with Bheels, who are as lawless as their neighbours. In fact, the Bheels are the cause of all the insecurity that exists, and I hear from the Maha Rawul of Banswarra that since the mutiny they have become more lawless than ever, as they captured a large number of muskets from the mutineers, and thus are more difficult to coerce than previously. It has always been customary for the villages of Scindhia's dominions on the plateau of Malwa to pay chouth to the Bheels of Banswarra and Pertabgurh. This is a species of black-mail, levied originally for doing service or chowkeedaree in troublous times. As prosperity has increased the Zemindars on the plateau have resisted this payment, which has led to reprisals on the part of the Bheels, and in 1857 the Bheels of Banswarra, headed by Gunga Rawul, made an attack on the village of Mowkheree. They were defeated with loss of Jeeja Rawul, a brother of Gunga Rawul, which caused a blood feud to spring up, and continued contention has ensued. In reply to the complaints made by the Political Agent, Western Malwa, I remarked as follows, *viz.*—

"I almost despair of any improvement until some very active "measures are taken by the Central India authorities themselves, and "a few of the marauders captured or slain, a consummation which seems "never to be arrived at, owing, I presume, to the want of effective "police arrangements in the Holkar and Scindhia's territories.

"Every Native Durbar that I have been connected with is more "or less prone to pursue the policy of keeping up as small a police force "as possible, and generally one quite inadequate and unable to guard "their territories. They find it much less expensive to ignore their "responsibilities, and throw the onus of the protection of their sub-"jects on the Political Officers accredited to their Courts; and the "sooner this system is checked and the Durbars made to protect their "own subjects, the sooner tranquillity will be ensured. One active "case of punishment of the marauders will save sheets of corre-"spondence, which in regard to Scindhia's district of Mundisore has "been going on for nearly half a century."

33. Latterly, the Bheels on the Malwa border have been quite quiet, and the Banswarra Durbar has been moved to keep a Vakeel in attendance upon the Political Agent in Western Malwa to facilitate the settlement of disputes, and to take instant measures of repression. The Minister of Banswarra, a Buneea of the name of Kotharee Kesree

Singh, is a very able, active, and brave officer. He has managed for the present to restrain the predatory incursions of the Bheels, but I cannot view it as aught but a temporary lull.

34. In your letter, No. 68, dated 17th ultimo, you called for a report regarding the Rao of Koosulgurh, and mentioned that you thought he was wanting in respect and subordination to his Chief. You were quite right in this surmise. I sent for the Rao of Koosulgurh, and he coolly informed me that he considered himself quite independent of Banswarra, and that he would not reply to any orders transmitted through the Durbar. I pointed out to him that he had received written orders from each successive Political Agent to correspond through the Banswarra authorities, that our Treaty was with Banswarra and not with him, and that if he still remained recusant, I should endeavour to get him punished; but he was not at all inclined to listen either to my advice or threats, and, with the usual arrogance and insolence of his race, never even went to visit the Maha Rawul during his stay at Banswarra. There never will be any order in Rajpootana until some of these petty Chiefs are well punished, and the sooner we aid the Durbars in coercing them the sooner law and order will prevail. The Rao of Koosulgurh in Banswarra has 65 villages in Rutlam, and being a Rahtore Rajpoot of the same tribe as the Ruler of Rutlam, he doubtless calculates on being able to cope with the Maha Rawul of Banswarra in any attempt at coercion.

35. All persons of high rank in these territories wear armour, either of chain, iron, or the finely plated wicker work of the outside of the bamboos, covered with Sambhur skin. Their horses also are covered in a panoply of this latter, and they have the same appearance as the armour worn by Knights of old. This is necessitated by the insecure state of the country. Every man's hand is against the Bheels, and their hands are turned against everybody's, and they hide behind bushes and fire their arrows at any one they meet, even without provocation. In passing along through the country towards Banswarra the Bheels deserted the villages and ran up the hill sides. I was, however, on my return happy to see that they were a little more assured, and in places came down to the roadside to see the camp pass. At the present moment, in the border State of Soonth, under the Bombay Presidency, there is a fight going on between the Bheels and the Durbar, which the Political Agent, Captain Barton, is endeavouring to quell. There is also a disturbance going on at Poseena in Guzerat under the Mahee Kanta Agency, on the Kotra border, and the Bheels of the Bhakur in Sirohi are in open revolt, so there are no less than three petty wars going on over my border.

36. Maha Rawul Luchmun Singh, of Banswarra, is a Sesodeea, and his family is an offshot from Oodeypore. He has one legitimate son, an infant named Jey Singh. He is very intelligent and active in his habits, but looks from recent illness to be weak in health. He is reputed to be a very devout Hindoo. The territory of Banswarra was conquered from an aboriginal Bheel named Boongra by Jugmall Singh, who founded old Banswarra, a place some distance from the present capital.

37. The Bheels of Banswarra as a race acknowledge the Hindoo religion, and usually refuse to eat with Moosulmen. They have a belief in the spiritual superiority of the Brahmins, and on my making

enquiries on this point the Maha Rawul remarked, "Bheel log Bahmun ko manta aur marta bhee." (The Bheels believe in them and kill them also.) They are as a race great drunkards, and take opium in great quantities. Their chief food is Indian corn, and the spirit they use is made from the flower of the Mowa tree. All their customs at births, marriages, and deaths are the same as those of Hindoos, but their superstitions interfere to prevent them from burning the bodies of Bheels who die of cholera: these latter are always buried.

38. I have with some difficulty procured the accounts of the Banswarra Durbar for the Sumbut year under report, but I do not consider they have been correctly rendered, or are worthy of any trust being placed in them. They are evidently made out to show that the Durbar is very poor, and are very meagre and devoid of detail.

Vide Statement marked B.

39. Deoleea Pertabgurh is a small principality, situated to the east of Banswarra, and due south of our station of Neemuch. The new capital Pertabgurh is situated on the Malwa plateau, but the greater proportion of the territory is in the Kanthul below this plateau. The upper part is well cultivated, but the lower part is a vast jungle inhabited by Bheels. In this territory some timber is grown, but it never attains any great girth or size, but it is larger and better than that in Banswarra and Doongurpore I presume, because the rainfall is heavier from the territory being further east.

Pertabgurh.

40. The young Maha Rawul of Pertabgurh was invested with full authority on the 17th December 1865, and I am happy to say that he has been successful in keeping in check his predatory tribes since his accession to power, and I have received very few complaints from the Malwa authorities during the past year. With a view to the acceleration of business and an early settlement of disputes I induced the Maha Rawul to send a Vakeel to wait on the Political Agent, Western Malwa, and hope this will prove beneficial.

41. I observe that in the States of Doongurpore, Banswarra, and Pertabgurh the Durbars have a number of Valayatees and Mukranees as sepoys in their service. This is quite contrary to Treaty, but it has been in vogue so long that I do not know if you would desire any action to be taken. We might point out to these Durbars that it is contrary to Treaty, and prohibit their enlisting any more of these people. They give a good deal of trouble, and are always ready to join in any fight that goes on. I have recently had a case in point in which the Valayatees of the Thakoor of Panurwa in the hilly tracts went and joined the Kamdar of Poseena in Guzerat, who had revolted. Of course when any disturbance is going on high wages are given to the mercenary soldiery, and they flock to join in the spoil. The Thakoor of Panurwa has now got rid of his Valayatees. The Thakoors are often heavily in debt to their mercenaries, and find a difficulty in dismissing them when they desire to do so.

P S.—It is only at the last moment that I have been enabled to obtain the accounts of the Doongurpore Durbar for the past year; they

are attached to the Report, and marked C. This Statement is only an approximation to the real revenue of the Durbar, and without any further enquiry I can perceive there is one omission, the receipts from fines not being entered in the account. The Durbars are unaccustomed to render these accounts, and view with some distrust the motives which actuate us in calling for them; however, this will be got over in the course of a short time. I regret to say that the accounts from Pertabgurh have not been received.

Translation of a khureeta from MAHA RANA SUMBHOO SINGH of Oodeypore, to the address of MAJOR J. P. NIXON, Political Agent, Meywar,—dated Poos Vud Amawus, Sumbut 1923, or A. D. 6th January 1867.

AT the expiration of the second agreement for the cession of the Meywar portion of the Mugra Mairwarra, which was entered into through Colonel Lockett for eight years commencing from May 1833 and ending in May 1841, it was the intention of this Durbar to repossess itself of the same, but at the suggestion of Colonel Robinson a further agreement for eight years was entered into. This last agreement not having been signed, and sent to this Durbar, the late "Purdhan" (Minister) spoke to Colonel Low on the subject, who said that the agreement would be signed,* and sent through the Political Agent, Meywar.

In Sumbut 1907† Fagoon vud Chouth a khureeta was addressed to Colonel Lawrence on the subject, but owing to certain causes the question was kept in abeyance. As the agreement was made with the British Government there was every hope that the Meywar District of Mugra Mairwarra would be made over, and placed in charge of the Durbar officials in accordance with the agreement, on its termination, but many years have elapsed and nothing has been done in the matter. I therefore write to request you will take the above into your consideration, and adopt some measures in order to restore the Meywar portion of the Mugra Mairwarra to this State.

A

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements of the Oodeypore State for the Sumbut year 1922.

RECEIPTS.	Amount.			Total.		
Balance in hand at the close of Sumbut 1921, *viz.*,	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Cash and Gold Mohurs, &c., in the "Rung Bhuwun" Treasury.	30,04,541	1	3.			
In Stock	9,80,728	0	6			
Outstanding balances	18,81,547	13	1			
				58,66,816	14	10
Total, Balance in hand at the close of Sumbut 1921 ...				58,66,816	14	10

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* "Sabit-ho-kur."

† A. D. 1850-51.

	RECEIPTS.	Amount. Rs. a. p.	Total. Rs. a. p.
Current year's income, *viz.*—			
1.	Land revenue from all sources	17,32,057 13 10	
2.	Customs collections from all sources ...	4,03,702 1 0	
3.	Tribute from Chiefs	1,65,677 15 0	
4.	City income	36,814 14 0	
5.	Investiture or Succession Fees	29,256 8 0	
6.	Fees collected in the Judicial Courts ...	19,064 15 9	
7.	"Nuzurana," collections, offerings, &c.	47,532 5 3	
8.	Interest, discount, and other savings ..	76,387 9 6	
9.	Fines and other petty incomes	68,252 2 9	
10.	Income of the Government shop ...	10,596 7 6	
11.	Miscellaneous income	71,930 3 0	
			26,61,272 15 7
Grand total of Receipts for the Sumbut year 1922 Shah Allum Shahee			Rs. 26,61,272 15 7

	DISBURSEMENTS.	Amount. Rs. a. p.	Total. Rs. a. p.
1.	Departmental expenses of administration, &c.	4,59,957 4 6	
2.	"Kothar," or granary expenses ...	2,77,368 6 6	
3.	Personal expenses of the Maha Rana ...	61,080 14 6	
4.	Clothing Department.	75,644 10 3	
5.	Jewel Department	71,398 2 0	
6.	Purchase of horses, elephants, carriage, &c.	85,025 8 3	
7.	Public Works Department, *viz.*—		
	Local Works 55,495 0 0		
	Road Department ... 1,25,778 3 0		
		1,81,273 3 0	
8.	Festivals, &c., expenses	7,353 10 0	
9.	Pay of servants and general *employés* ...	85,649 10 0	
10.	"Fouj, Seebundee" (army)	5,15,589 4 3	
11.	Ranee's expenses	95,415 11 9	
12.	Temple expenses and charity	73,613 5 9	
13.	Tribute to the British Government ...	2,64,500 0 0	
14.	Contribution towards the maintenance of the Meywar Bheel Corps	96,095 12 2	
15.	Compensation on account of robberies, &c.	2,402 12 0	
16.	Cash payment in lieu of villages, &c. ...	22,105 4 3	
17.	Presents and entertainments to visitors.	1,36,856 1 3	
18.	Batta to Durbar officials going out on duty	6,657 14 0	
19.	Miscellaneous expenses	1,67,741 10 9	
			26,85,729 1 2
Grand total of Disbursements for Sumbut 1922 Shah Allum Shahee			Rs. 26,85,729 1 2

Abstract of Balances.

	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
In the "Rung Bhuwun" Treasury, *viz.*—						
In Cash	29,62,071	1	3			
In Gold and Mohurs	42,470	0	0			
				30,04,541	1	3
Stock in Granary and Jewel Departments				3,68,586	15	3
On account of the Sumbut year 1923				2,73,227	8	9
Stock in Government shop				4,98,945	14	3
Outstanding balances				16,97,059	5	9
Total, Shah Allum Shahee Rs.				58,42,360	13	3

(Sd.) J. P. NIXON,
Political Agent, Meywar.

B

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements of the Banswarra State for the Sumbut year 1922.

RECEIPTS.	Amount. Rs.	a.	p.	Total. Rs.	a.	p.
Land Revenue, "Khalsa"...	1,05,000	0	0			
"Sayer," Customs collections	17,000	0	0			
"Abkaree"	1,000	0	0			
Miscellaneous income	3,000	0	0			
				1,26,000	0	0
Total, Receipts for Sumbut 1922 ...				1,26,000	0	0
Amount recovered from the above receipts	1,11,000					
Balance remaining	15,000					

DISBURSEMENTS.	Amount. Rs.	a.	p.	Total. Rs.	a.	p.
Tribute to the British Government	35,000	0	0			
Expenses on account of Army	40,000	0	0			
"Kothar Khurch," granary, including the feed of elephants, horses, Raj servants, &c.	30,000	0	0			
Miscellaneous expenses on account of festivals, presents, charity, servants' wages, compensation for robberies, &c.	25,000	0	0			
				1,30,000	0	0
Total, expenditure of Sumbut 1922 ...				1,30,000	0	0

(Sd.) J. P. NIXON,
Political Agent, Meywar.

C

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements of the Doongurpore State for the Sumbut year 1922, *i. e., A. D.* 1*st July* 1865 *to* 30*th June* 1866.

RECEIPTS.	Amount. Rs. a. p.	Total. Rs. a. p.
Land Revenue for Sumbut year 1922 ...	.....	76,425 4 0
Revenue of land allotted to the Durbar officials ...	.....	3,590 12 0
Abkaree and Miscellaneous	.....	5,002 15 0
"Sayer," or Customs collections	.....	28,000 0 0
"Burar Tomette punna Budharehka," tax on Khalsa villages where there is no Tometee ...	.....	13,500 0 0
Total, Receipts for the Sumbut year 1922 ...		1,26,618 15 0

DISBURSEMENTS.	Amount. Rs. a. p.	Total. Rs. a. p.
Personal expenses of the Maha Rawul	39,204 3 3	
Charity and presents...	15,914 13 9	
		55,119 1 0
State expenditure, *viz.*—		
Contingent expenses	26,234 1 3	
Tribute to British Government	36,925 0 0	
Pay of Durbar servants and sepoys, &c. ...	53,086 7 8	
		1,16,245 8 11
Total, Disbursements for Sumbut year 1922 ...		1,71,364 9 11

ABSTRACT OF BALANCES.

	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Balance on account of revenue at the close of Sumbut year 1921...	1,783 13 0	
Amount of revenue for the Sumbut year 1922 ...	76,425 4 0	
		78,209 1 0
Total...		78,209 1 0

DEDUCT.

	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Amount realized	69,572 7 0	
On account of defaulters	169 0 0	
		69,741 7 0
Balance remaining at the close of Sumbut year 1922 ...		8,467 10 0

(Sd.) J. P. Nixon,
Political Agent, Meywar.

JEYPORE AGENCY REPORT.

From MAJOR W. H. BEYNON, Political Agent, Jeypore, to LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. F. EDEN, Agent, Governor General, Rajpootana,—No. 51-38G.A., dated the 30th March 1867.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circular letters quoted in the margin, calling for a Report of the affairs of this State for the years 1865-66 and 1866-67.

No. 1410, dated 3rd December 1866.
No. 83, dated 22nd January 1867.

2. I received your letter in the beginning of January, and hoped ere this to have received a reply from the Durbar calling for Returns of revenue, receipts and disbursements, police, &c., and information of every description necessary for a Report. As these have not yet reached me, I am left to the only alternative of trusting to the records of this Office and to my own memory, and to observations made in passing through the country on my periodical tours. In recording the information required I will therefore enter into a brief retrospect of affairs from the time I was appointed to this Agency in March 1864 on Lieutenant-Colonel Brooke proceeding to Europe on medical certificate.

3. His Highness the Maharajah at this time had only a few days before reached Ajmere from Jodhpore, to which capital he had repaired for the purpose of entering into a matrimonial alliance with one of the daughters of that house, and on the 12th of the same month he was duly installed a Knight of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India.

4. The last Report from this Office entering fully into all particulars connected with this Durbar is contained in my predecessor's letter as marginally cited.

To Agent, Governor General, No. 68, dated 17th August 1861.

5. The administration of this State was at the time nominally in the hands of Thakoor Luchmun Singh of Chomoo, but really carried on by Pundit Sheodeen, the Maharajahs' Private Secretary and counsellor, and who possessed the fullest powers. He was, as you will observe from Reports in your Office, a Brahmin from our provinces, who received his education in the Agra Government College, where he attained the highest degrees, and was appointed by the Political Agent in the year 1835 as tutor to the young Maharajah.

6. Sheodeen, by his pleasing manner, integrity, zeal, and ability, mingled no doubt by the craft and subtlety for which a Brahmin is noted, gradually gained the entire confidence and respect of his pupil, which eventually secured for him the highest post in the State—that of Prime Minister—on the death of Thakoor Luchmun Singh in May 1862.

7. The administration during the period that Sheodeen was in power appears to have been carried on with wisdom and discretion, if one is to judge from the general satisfaction he appears to have given to all classes. The reforms he made and the order he introduced into the several departments of the State, as well as the general equity of

his conduct, entitle him to the highest commendation. The revenue department, especially, was considerably improved, and the Returns given in Colonel Brooke's Report, as cited in the margin, show an increase of six lakhs. The revenue still further augmented during the subsequent years that Sheodeen took the helm, and in the last year it is reported amounted to some forty-five lakhs.

No. 68, dated 17th August 1861.

8. I joined this Agency on the 14th March 1864. At this time Sheodeen was ailing, but he was not considered to be in a dangerous state: the malady, however, from which he suffered showed that his constitution was breaking up, and though a week before his death he improved, his constitution was so weakened that he had not strength left to rally, and to the regret of all classes he died on the 13th June 1864, as reported in my letter quoted in the margin.

To Agent, Governor General, Rajpootana, No. 48, dated 15th June 1864.

9. It is not to be wondered at if a man rising as Sheodeen did from a very humble position to that of the highest post of the State should have many enemies, especially the Thakoors of the Nathawut faction, who looked upon him in the light of an interloper, and who deprived them of what they had hitherto and for several generations considered as an hereditary right. His enemies accused him of rapacity and mâlignity, and of placing his own relations and friends in the highest offices of the Government; that he had two sets of accounts, the one true and the other fabricated for record in the duftur of the Durbar; that he was grasping and would brook no control, and would not allow the subordinate officers of the Government to give advice or use that discretion in the management of their own departments which was formerly usual; and that he used the public money to purchase the good-will of those who were likely to intrigue against him. Some of this may be true, for Pundit Sheodeen had doubtless his failings, but the greater part may no doubt be imputed to jealousy, and the rest requires confirmation.

10. Of one thing there is no doubt, that he had the tact to conciliate and please all parties, and did much to infuse a better spirit among the petty Chiefs who were given to quarrelling. In every case also where it appeared necessary to adopt a public measure for the benefit of the country, he did so to the best of his ability, and to him may be attributed much of the progress that has been made within this State of late years in pushing on public works of utility; and his loss was a severe one to the State as well as to the British Government, of which he was a warm ally and well-wisher, and for which he had the greatest regard.

11. The death of Sheodeen was a severe blow to the Maharajah; and he felt it the more as there was not a single man in the whole of the State from whom His Highness could choose, and in whom he could place that reliance which it is necessary for one to possess in so responsible an office as that of Prime Minister. At first His Highness appeared inclined to nominate the son of Sheodeen as a mark of respect and regard for his late friend and faithful servant, but on reflection he did not consider it prudent to trust so responsible an office on such young shoulders, the lad being but 20 years of age.

His Highness therefore resolved on forming a ministry, or, as he described it to me, a secretariat department, dividing the whole administration into two principal heads under four officers, with himself at the head. To the Moosahibut or ministerial department were appointed Buxshee Fyez Ally Khan, who is also Commander-in-Chief of the army, and Bishumberdeen, son of the late Sheodeen. To the Dewanee or revenue and financial departments were appointed Moonshee Kishen Suroop and Perohit Rampersad, the Maharajah himself presiding over each on fixed days of the weeks; and on questions of importance the four heads of the departments are consulted in Council. The only man who may be said to be fully competent, and who endeavours to carry out the duties of the administration entrusted to him, is the Buxshee Nawab Fyez Ally Khan. He is a man of very good ability, intelligent and active, and has for many years been connected with the State and worked with the late Pundit Sheodeen. The Pundit's son as well as Kishen Suroop have both worked very unsatisfactorily, and lost all confidence of the Maharajah by their lukewarmness in their duties. Perohit Rampersad, the fourth member, is a man of no education whatever, and can hardly sign his name, and utterly unacquainted with business, but bears the reputation of being honest and faithful to his master.

12. The members of the Council, however, from my own experience as well as what I have been able to gather from the information of others, have but little power or authority to act independently in their respective departments. They are restricted, except in minor cases, to enquiring into cases brought before them, and of submitting the same to the Chief for his consideration or orders; the result is that business is very much in arrears, and though the Council are supposed to dispose of all ordinary cases, still their orders are liable to be reversed or modified at the will of the Chief, and this further curtails their usefulness.

13. In all the other departments of the State there is also want of energy in attending to business, and the wonder is, that the administration is carried on as well as it is. The Maharajah has on more than one occasion complained of this laxity in some of the departments, and has lately made an example of those officials who have been pronounced inefficient or careless in their duties by dismissal from office or by the imposition of a heavy fine. In this manner the officials are roused from their lethargy, and spurred on for a time to greater activity and attention to their work.

14. One of the first steps taken by the Maharajah after the death of Sheodeen was to make a searching enquiry into the condition of the revenues of the State. These, as I have shown above in paragraph 6, amounted in the last year of Sheodeen's management to about 45 lakhs. This was under the khalsa system, and there can be but little doubt of the advantage of khalsa over the farming or "ijara" system; the latter, however, is in great favour in Jeypore as well as in Native States generally, as they consider it a means to realize the rents at the proper seasons without trouble, and overlook the fact that in all probability the cultivators will be ruined by the men placed over them.

15. I am sorry to report that the Maharajah by the influence I believe of the old revenue officials brought the farming system again into operation within four months after Sheodeen's death. These men have no doubt interested views, for they themselves generally become the lessees, though the contracts appear to stand in the names of others, their own adherents.

16. As I have already remarked, I have not yet been furnished with any Returns, but from what I have learnt the whole of the khalsa lands have been leased for a term of five years in progressive increase, commencing from the revenue year in September 1864. The system, however, of concealing and suppressing information of every description connected with all revenue matters by this Durbar renders it very difficult to obtain a clear and correct knowledge of the actual state of affairs in this department; but as the revenue under khalsa management during the last year of Sheodeen's administration yielded 45 lakhs, it is not probable that under the "ijara" system a lower sum would be demanded for the first year, and I am informed that for the year 1865-66 the collections amounted to nearly 50 lakhs.

17. The results of the farming system have, I believe, as yet not been unfavourable, as fortunately the seasons have been good, and with the prevailing high prices of every description of produce the landholders and cultivators have been able to meet the demands on them, but the first season of scarcity will no doubt bring with it all the evils that must attend the farming system.

18. On the Maharajah mentioning to me what he had done regarding his revenue arrangements, I did not fail to point out to him that I considered he was wrong in changing a system which appeared to work so well under the late Minister Sheodeen; that, though the arrangements he had made would no doubt result in a considerable increase to his treasury, and that whatever his expectations might be, and however practicable of attainment, even with the greatest care and good management, the system was a bad one. That it was a hindrance to the improvement of the land, for Bunyas and bankers could not have any interest in the soil beyond what is created from the expectation of temporary profits; that in bad seasons it led to extortion and oppression of the Zemindars and ryots, who must be ruined by the excessive demands made upon them. I suggested that it would be more profitable in the end to come to arrangements with the Zemindars who remained fixed to the lands, and whose object it would be to extend cultivation and bring into use all waste land so far as was in their power. His Highness admitted that, as a general rule, I was right, but maintained that, under existing circumstances, the system of farming was more suited to the people of his country; that they had been tried on several occasions with the khalsa arrangement, but it had failed, the Zemindars refusing to be responsible for their rents. This is no doubt true, but the fault, I believe, rests with the Native Government in not keeping faith in the first instance with the landholders and ryots.

19. During the past year His Highness has organized an establishment for surveying the khalsa lands, which is now engaged in the work; and it is in contemplation to introduce a new land settlement

on the village lease system in each pergunnah as the survey is completed: nothing, however, has as yet been decided on this point.

20. Another important measure taken by the Maharajah after Sheodeen's death was to take an account of the expenditure, which, after scrutinizing minutely, he considered might be considerably reduced. All idlers and hangers-on, who had through their interest managed to receive a regular stipend from the treasury without being employed, were struck off the list; the establishments of the different departments were also greatly reduced.

Public servants, too, supplied with cattle and conveyances from the State were in lieu of this allowed a certain monthly stipend; arrangements were also made by His Highness for checking the daily outlay of the treasury, not a single rupee being allowed to pass out without an order in the first instance being signed by himself, and the amount of each day's receipts and disbursments being furnished and duly checked at the close of the day. By such means as these a considerable saving was effected, and the old debts of the State as well as those which had been contracted on account of His Highness's late marriage with the Jodhpore house, amounting in all to some 9 lakhs of rupees, were paid off within a very short time, and the yearly expenditure reduced to some 35 lakhs a year.

21. The State is now in a condition to apply its pecuniary resources to the improvement of its country and establishments, and the manner in which this is being done will be hereafter noticed.

Khetree.

22. In my Report dated the 14th May 1866 I noticed the praiseworthy endeavours of the Chief of Khetree to master the English language, his inauguration of a superior land settlement, and his introduction of a regular and improved system of rules and regulations for the better administration of his Chiefship.

The Khetree lands, instead of being farmed out, as was formerly the case, are now leased for a period of three years as an experimental measure, and which, if found advantageous, will be extended to a further term of ten years.

23. The result of Futteh Singh's enlightened policy and reforms is an increase of some Rupees 65,000 in the annual revenues of the State since his installation on his majority about five years ago, and that, though the expenditure is shown to be somewhat in excess of the receipts in consequence of the allotment of lands for the payment of the old State debts, retrenchments are in contemplation, which, it is expected, will next year show a large balance on the other side. The State debt which encumbered Khetree at the period he took charge in 1861, to the extent of 4¼ lakhs of rupees, chiefly contracted through the mal-administration of Futteh Singh's mother, has from his good management already been reduced to some Rupees 93,000, and, it is believed, will be fully paid off with interest in the course of three years.

24. The construction of roads of communication, the development of education, as well as the medical wants of the people, receive a large share of the Chief's attention, and for these purposes alone no less than Rupees 11,000 was expended by him during the past year.

25. Courts of justice modelled on the principle of our own Courts, and presided over by the Chief himself, have been established, as well as a charitable dispensary and hospital in the town of Khetree, which latter has proved a most useful institution in affording relief to the numbers of patients who flock to it from the surrounding neighbourhood.

Boys' schools have also been provided at Khetree and in the large town of Kote Pootlee, where some 170 boys are in regular attendance, and receive instruction in Hindee, Oordu, Sanscrit, and English. A school for girls is in contemplation. These institution receive the Chiefs' personal care and supervision, which his study of, and progress in, English literature and medical science so fit him for, and for the short time they have been in existence they would appear to have made very fair progress, and will doubtless continue to prosper under the unsparing exertions made by the young Chief for the enlightenment and happiness of his subjects.

26. Notwithstanding the peculiarly wild and lawless character of Shekhawattee generally, the comparative security of Khetree and its police arrangements reflect much credit on its Ruler, and present a wide contrast to the condition of the adjoining Rajpoot Chiefships in Shekhawattee; and considerable praise is due to him for the firmness and determination with which he has against so much opposition from the old officials of the State, a class proverbially averse to innovation, pushed his works of reform and improvement.

27. The young Chief was highly gratified on receiving the letter addressed to him by the Foreign Secretary, which was delivered to him at a special Durbar by His Highness the Maharajah.

28. Rajah Futteh Singh has recently established a vernacular school in the town of Singana, and remitted the transit dues on most goods brought to that town, with a view to encourage its trade and induce the people to settle there. He has also conciliated some refractory Thakoors, who were doing considerable mischief by plundering in the Kote Pootlee district, and induced them to settle down in their villages, binding them to keep the peace.

29. I trust Futteh Singh will continue his present wise policy. He deserves much praise for his success in rescuing his country from the helpless state of misery which had befallen it during the time his mother the Ranawutjee managed affairs.

Seekur.

30. On the 15th of March last I reported the intelligence of the death of Rao Rajah Bhyroo Singh at Seekur on the 11th idem. The deceased had been ailing for months previously, and his death was not unexpected. Anticipating such a contingency, the Jeypore Durbar made every arrangement for preserving order, and more especially with reference to the then already disturbed state of the country bordering on Seekur, and so successful were those measures that the event passed off quietly and without any disorder.

31. Bhyroo Singh has been succeeded by his reputed adopted son, Mahadoo Singh, a son of Budjee of Surveree, and his succession would appear to give universal satisfaction, and to be generally approved by all classes at Seekur; the ceremony of tying the turban (pugree bandee) having, it is reported, been performed in public without a dissenting

voice, in presence of the petty Chiefs and relations as well as the State officials. The young Chief being but five years of age, the conduct of the affairs of the State is in the hands of Thakoor Mokund Singh, who was during the late Chief's lifetime the principal counsellor of his Government. The succession, as you are aware, is now being contested by the Thakoor of Shamgurh, a branch of the Seekur family, who disputes the adoption of the boy.

32. I have not yet been furnished with the Durbar's particulars in the case so as to enable me to submit a full Report to you, but it would appear from a conversation I had with the Maharajah in connection with the subject that he was fully satisfied that the youth's adoption and indisputable right of succession was undoubted.

33. As the subject appears to be one which must be decided by His Highness, I have refrained from interfering or replying to any of the petitions which have come to me through your Office, but simply made them over to the Vakeel in attendance on this Agency for such notice as the Durbar may consider necessary. I have, however, but little doubt that, had there been any informality or doubt regarding the adoption of Mahadoo Singh, more stringent measures would have at once been taken by the Durbar for his removal, and the relations and people of Seekur and Shekhawattee would not have recognized the youth in so open a manner as they have Mahadoo Singh.

Bussao.

34. On the 28th September 1865 the Vakeel of Bussao reported the death of his master, Thakoor Hummeer Singh, and the installment of Chunder Singh, son of Thakoor Gobind Singh of Soorujgurh, as his successor by adoption. He complained that, though Chunder Singh's adoption was a well known and acknowledged fact at Bussao, the Jeypore Durbar ignored the succession, and had not only prohibited the observance of the usual obsequies of the deceased, but had imposed all manner of arbitrary measures, and even threatened the confiscation of the estate.

35. At a later period the Chief of Bussao addressed a khureeta to me on the subject of his grievances, pointing out that, not only had the Durbar's threat to confiscate Bussao been carried out, but that his father's jageer of Soorujgurh had also been sequestered; that his Vakeel had been cast into prison; that Dustuks had been imposed, and the payment of the revenues of his estate to any other than the Durbar officials interdicted, the Chief concluding his khureeta by remarking that if equitable measures were not speedily adopted, the most serious consequences were inevitable. A copy of the khureeta was communicated from this Office to the Jeypore Durbar, with a view to such steps being taken as would secure the peace of the country.

36. Amongst the claims put forward to the "guddee," the most prominent is Jye Singh's, the Thakoor of Dhooload, who bases his right on the grounds of prior adoption, and which he states the Rajah of Bikaneer is able to substantiate. The testimony, however, of the Bikaneer Chief, though applied for from this Office on the requisition of the Jeypore Durbar, has not yet been furnished.

37. In this case also, as in that of Seekur already noticed, I have considered it advisable not to interfere, but to allow the Durbar to take its own course in settling the question.

38. On my return from Khetree in February 1866 I passed through a portion of the Patun territory, and was visited by the Rao, who met me on the border. I am sorry to report that the state of affairs within this territory are anything but satisfactory. The estate is burdened with debt, and the Rao constantly engaged in disputes with his relations, who have inherited small portions of land from the custom which prevails in Shekhawattee generally of dividing the estate equally amongst the sons on the death of the father; the consequence is that many of them are driven to plunder from their inability to support themselves at home on their small holdings. The nature of the country, too, situated as it is with a range of high and difficult hills running through the centre of it, affords a means of escape and shelter to the robbers, so that any attempt of the Durbar to apprehend them is sure to be frustrated. The Rao himself is said also to give assistance to the marauders, and to benefit thereby in a share of the booty.

Patun.

39. One case in which the Rao had thwarted the endeavours of a party of the Thuggee Department to apprehend two escaped prisoners from our jails was reported to you in my letter marginally cited, and for this offence the Durbar fined him rupees two thousand.

No. 114-51J., dated 2nd September 1865.

40. I took the opportunity of warning the Chief of his conduct, and remarked that if he persisted in such a course of lawlessness, he would be sure to incur the displeasure, not only of the Maharajah, but of the British Government.

He promised me faithfully that there should be no cause for complaint against him, but I am afraid he has but little influence among his people, and neither the disposition nor the ability to manage his own affairs.

41. The affairs of this State continue much in the same condition as formerly reported. It is still almost hopelessly overburdened with debt, and, though arrangements were made with his creditors, the Rao Rajah took the first opportunity of breaking his most faithful promises with the bankers not to interfere with the revenues of the villages made over for the gradual liquidation of the sums advanced.

Ooniara.

Colonel Brooke's Report, dated 17th August 1861.

42. The part of the country in which the district of Ooniara is situated is one of the richest in Jeypore, and is capable of yielding a considerable revenue under proper management, but I regret to report that the Chief is careless in the extreme: he does not appear to give a thought as to the condition of his country or the welfare of his people. From mismanagement his means and resources have gradually become less, and no dependence can be placed on his following the only course of saving himself and his State from the ruin that now threatens both. The complaints to the Durbar by the native bankers are loud, but, though anxious to come to some arrangement, the Jeypore Government is at a loss how to act, for the Rao Rajah's credit is gone, and to resort to more stringent measures is a course which the Durbar would not adopt unless all other endeavours fail.

43. The Chief is uneducated, and has not the inclination or the ability for work or business of any description; he is reckless and

lavish in his expenditure, and his habits are dissipated and degraded in the extreme, and so freely is he said to indulge in intoxicating liquors and drugs that his faculties are said to have become impaired.

Border disputes.

44. During the year 1865-66 the following boundary disputes in which the Jeypore Durbar was concerned were investigated and disposed of:—

I. Detonee in Jeypore and Bambola in Kishengurh.—In this case land to the extent of nearly 1,000 beegahs was contested. The dispute had originated as far back as 1843. In 1849 the border appears to have been laid down; but no pillars having been constructed the line of demarcation became obliterated, and the border was one continual source of strife till the month of April 1865, when the boundary was finally marked out* and pillars of masonry erected.

II. Selempore in Kerrowlie and Doab in Jeypore.—This dispute arose in 1853, and the border, though enquired into and marked out in 1854, and again in 1862, continued in dispute until finally adjusted by a deputation of Ameens in 1865. In the month of October 1865 the proceedings were duly confirmed by you, and towards the end of 1866 the construction of the pillars was completed.

III. Deotah in Jeypore and Dhuntal in Putteeala.—Originated in 1844,—between that year and 1863 the border appears to have been enquired into, and fixed on no fewer than three different occasions, and the pillars and line of demarcation destroyed as often as laid down. The disturbances for which this border has been marked became so serious in 1865 as to necessitate the deputation of a chupprassee from this Agency to preserve the peace until arrangements could be made for making the necessary enquiry. In the month of February 1865, under an arrangement made with the Commissioner of Umballa, I proceeded personally to the border, where, in concert with the Nazim of Narnoul, the boundary was carefully enquired into and laid out, and pillars of masonry have since been constructed.

IV. Kyallee in Jeypore and Losnah in Bikaneer.—In the latter end of 1866 this border, which had been in dispute since 1839, and the pillars destroyed on five different occasions since its settlement in 1845, was finally adjusted, and substantial pillars of masonry erected to mark the border.

Besides the above four cases there was the revival of the Rajawas of Jeypore and Detona of Tonk border dispute early in 1864. This was one of the numerous cases on the Jeypore and Tonk border, which were settled by the late Captain Phillpotts in 1863.

Although Captain Phillpotts is shown to have gone into the fullest enquiry, and to have exhausted every means for arriving at a just conclusion, the villagers of Rajawas were dissatisfied, and in July 1864 addressed a memorial of complaint to the then Agent, Governor General, for Rajpootana, who informed them that they had no grounds for complaint, and that Captain Phillpotts's disposal of the case was fair and equitable. The pillars were eventually erected on the line fixed by Captain Phillpotts.

* By Ameens on the part of the disputed villages.

Marwar claims.

45. In the month of May 1862 a special Commission, composed of European and Native members, was convened by the orders of Government for the adjudication of cases of compensation claimed by Marwar from the Jeypore State for outrages committed by outlawed Thakoors of the latter State. The cases extended over a number of years, and numbered in all 37, the amount of claims aggregating Rupees 5,21,194.

46. The Commission completed its work in the month of October following, finding that one-fourth, or Rupees 1,30,273, be paid as compensation to the sufferers in Marwar; but in consideration of the complications which surrounded the enquiry the Court reserved its verdict, as to who should pay the compensation, for the ultimate decision of Government.

47. As all the cases resembled each other more or less in point of law, and with a view to reduce the mass of correspondence, the Commission in submitting its proceedings to Government selected four of the principal cases as being sufficiently illustrative of the whole; and the then Agent, Governor General, in his remarks on the proceedings strongly recommended that the full amount awarded should be demanded from, and paid by, Jeypore.

48. In a circular dated the 8th March 1864, No. 262, the Government of India concurred in the award against Jeypore, and directed that that State be required to make good the amount within two months after the date of notice, and that the Chief be informed at the same time that so long as he affords asylum to the outlawed Thakoors he must be held responsible for their conduct.

49. In my letter, No. 73-38G., dated the 6th September 1864, I reported to your Office that, though I had duly apprized His Highness the Maharajah of the contents of the above circular from Government, I was surprised on a more recent allusion to the matter to find His Highness complain that he had neither been informed of the assembly of the Commission, nor been furnished with a copy of its proceedings, or been allowed an opportunity of answering the accusations advanced by Jodhpore against his government, and that the first and only intimation received by him in the matter was the remarks of the Supreme Government above referred to. His Highness at the same time expressed his entire acquiescence in the decision of Government, as also his readiness to pay the amount at once if considered necessary.

No. 684, dated 30th May 1865.

50. On the contents of your letter, marginally cited, being explained to His Highness that he had mainly his own Vakeel in attendance with you, who was a member of the Commission, to blame for the omission complained of, that the Court was assembled in no undue haste, and that the Jeypore Vakeel had had every opportunity afforded him of recording protests and adducing any counter-evidence which his government might wish to bring forward, and that it would now be fruitless to re-open or review matter that had already been so thoroughly exhausted by the Commission and concurred in by the Supreme Government, His Highness responded in a khureeta, enclosed in my letter to your address, dated the 27th April 1866, pointing out that, while he was perfectly satisfied with the decission of the British Government, he was afraid that by his

making the sum over to the Jodhpore Durbar for disposal his Rajpoot brethren would be liable to view the matter in the light of a payment of a fine imposed upon him by the Supreme Government, and consequently degrade him in their eyes. His Highness therefore suggested that instead of paying the money in this manner the individuals themselves who had suffered losses be summoned by, and paid individually through, the orders of the Political Agent at the Court of Jodhpore. This request having been acceded to by you, the amount decreed was paid into this Office by His Highness, and forwarded to the Jodhpore Agency on 28th January last.

Contested possession of the village of Babye.

51. In August 1865 the contested possession of the village of Babye by Jeypore and Indurgurh received your final orders.

Agent, Governor General, to Political Agent, No. 545, dated 19th May 1863.
Political Agent, to Agent, Governor General, No. 37, dated 20th July 1863.
Ditto, to ditto, No. 51, dated 5th September 1863.
Agent, Governor General, to Political Agent, No. 1210, dated 12th August 1865.

52. This case, as per correspondence marginally cited, appears to have originated in an attempt on the part of Jeypore to besiege the fort of Babye and seize the revenues of the village during the latter part of 1862. The Jeypore Durbar endeavoured to justify its action on the grounds that Babye had been held uninterruptedly from A. D. 1742 to 1789 by branches of the royal house of Jeypore, and that, though temporarily occupied after that period by the Chief of Ooniara, it was subsequently granted by Maharajah Pertab Singh of Jeypore to the grandfathers and ancestors of the present proprietor; that one of these having connected himself by marriage with the Chief of Indurgurh had become considerably indebted to him, and hence had resulted the present attempt of Indurgurh to obtain the village. The payment of the Babye tribute at Jeypore instead of at Indurgurh, the presentation by Babye to Jeypore of nuzzur on Dusserah and other festivals, the greatest mark of sovereignty through Rajpootana, and the payment of "Neotah"* by the Babye villagers on the occasion of the Maharajah of Jeypore's marriage, were urged by the Jeypore Durbar in support of its asserted right of possession. Indurgurh, on the other hand, while claiming priority of possession, denied the alleged grant of Babye to Shunkur Singh by Maharajah Pertab Singh of Jeypore, and argued that at the period in question Shunkur Singh fled in distress from Jeypore, when the Indurgurh Chief befriended him and gave him the revenues of Babye as a means of subsistence, but that Indurgurh still retained possession of the village, and continued to arrange for the payment of its tribute. According to the Indurgurh version of the story, Babye was previously occupied by the Mookum Singoots, a branch of the Indurgurh house, and Haras who were ejected by the Indurgurh Chief, and that when subsequently held by Ooniara, a feudatory of Jeypore, Indurgurh sent a force against Babye, ejected the Ooniara garrison, and re-established the Sultanots. With regard to the tribute, Indurgurh explained that its payment had always been made to Runtumbore long before that fortress lapsed to Jeypore on the decline of the Imperialists, and that since that time it has been continued to be paid as before, *viz.*, the Indurgurh tribute at Jeypore, and that of

* Contribution on account of marriage, death, &c.

Babye at Bowlee, in the name of the Commandant of Runtumbore, the wording of the receipt remaining the same. The payment of nuzzur and neotah by Babye to Jeypore were explained away by Indurgurh in a similar manner.

Indurgurh further adduced that, while Jeypore could found no claim whatever either on the score of fealty or previous possession, Indurgurh had since the Mahratta aggressions towards the close of the last century fought for and defended Babye, and spent large sums of money in preserving it; that all village disputes and law suits had been invariably settled at Indurgurh and not at Jeypore; and that the fort of Babye had now been continuously garrisoned by Indurgurh for more than half a century, which it could hardly be supposed that Jeypore would have tolerated, had she had that right to sovereignty which she now brings forward. A voluminous amount of evidence was produced on both sides.

53. On the case being reviewed by you in the month of August 1865, you observed that while the main facts connected with the original occupation of the village by the Sultanot clan, and the questions bearing generally on the identity of the respective claims were contradictory and far from authenticated, one thing appeared certain, that the Sultanots in times of adversity, and when they required protection, always applied for, and received it, from Indurgurh, and that, notwithstanding their descent from the Jeypore house, the weight of their testimony is thrown in favour of Indurgurh. That another favourable point to Indurgurh was the fact that the evidence of some of the principal residents of Babye went to confirm the Indurgurh story that Shunkur Singh on his fleeing from his kinsmen had been befriended by the Thakoor of Indurgurh, who settled him in Babye,—the Jeypore evidence to the effect that Maharajah Pertab Singh of Jeypore had granted Babye to Shunkur Singh being much shaken by the fact that the document purporting to be the deed of the grant referred to by Jeypore was found to be dated some three years prior to the date on which the grant is said to have been made.

54. In your summing up you remarked that, whatever flaws there may be in the legal right of Indurgurh to the possession, the interest which she has always evinced in the welfare of Babye, in defending and rescuing her from foreign aggression, and in garrisoning her fort for upwards of half a century, contrasted strongly with the apathy shown to have been observed towards her by Jeypore on all occasions. That this, with the fact that Indurgurh held military possession of Babye at the period of the British alliance with the Rajpoot States, would convey at least a strong moral right to Indurgurh, and fairly throw the *onus probandi* on the Jeypore State.

Jeypore having failed to substantiate her claim, the case was given in favour of Indurgurh.

55. A claim was subsequently put forward by Indurgurh against Jeypore for indemnification for loss of revenue sustained during the latter's temporary exercise of its supposed right to Babye.

This claim was objected to, and the case on being referred to you was given in favour of Indurgurh. The payment of the claim (some Rupees 9,000) has not yet been adjusted, nor has any reply been received

form the Jeypore Durbar to the several communications forwarded from this Office in the matter.

Thakoor Luckdhere Singh's hostilities in Ulwur.

56. In the month of May last hostilities broke out between the Maha Rao Rajah of Ulwur and Thakoor Luckdhere Singh, the principal Chief of that State, who, in consequence of the Maha Rao Rajah's bitter enmity towards him, had resided at Jeypore since the termination of the Ulwur Rajah's minority in 1863.

57. Repeated endeavours had been made from time to time by the Political authorities to reconcile the Chief to his vassal, and to bring their differences of the past to a close, but without success, the former having on every occasion not only refused his consent to the Thakoor's return to Ulwur, but avowed his determination to oppose any attempt of his to do so by force of arms.

58. Intelligence of the coming disturbance was first received from the Ulwur Chief on the 20th April last, who reported the intended rising of Luckdhere Singh, and his rumoured movements against Ulwur, and represented that the Jeypore Durbar was aiding him in his plans. This accusation was indignantly denied by Jeypore, who explained that, though the Thakoor had quitted Jeypore, he had simply gone on a pilgrimage to a shrine in Shekhawattee.

59. In the latter end of the following month the outbreak of actual hostilities was reported by Ulwur, in the attack and occupation of the fort of Lallpoora in Ulwur by Luckdhere Singh and his force. At this juncture the Jeypore Durbar was requested to exercise the strictest neutrality, and to use its best endeavours to preserve peace within its border.

60. Charges and counter-charges were subsequently received from both States—Jeypore complaining of the outrages of Ulwur, Ulwur recriminating and accusing Jeypore of being the sole cause of the evil, by countenancing and supporting Luckdhere Singh.

61. Hostilities subsequently assumed such formidable proportions that the whole of the border and highways conterminous to Ulwur were reported dangerous to life and property; and that in consequence traffic had in a great measure been suspended; and it became necessary for the contiguous States to employ armed forces for the protection of the passes in their respective territories.

62. A proclamation was at this time issued by the Maharajah of Jeypore forbidding any of his subjects from taking part in the strife and from crossing into the Ulwur border, and he also sent reinforcements to the localities which were reported to be disturbed with a view of enforcing his injunctions.

63. On whichever side blame may rest, the primary cause would certainly appear to have arisen in Luckdhere Singh's movement to recover his confiscated possessions in Ulwur. The fact, however, of his having been assisted in his aggressions by Jeypore, as also the report that a large force of Shekhawats had been organized and held in readiness to join him so soon as he entered the Shekhawattee district, are emphatically denied by Jeypore, while it is admitted that more than likely Luckdhere Singh may have been joined after crossing into Ulwur by Baroteeahs and outlaws of Jeypore, who would be but too

ready to league themselves with the rebels, and under cover of the feud reap a rich harvest for themselves from rapine and plunder. The Jeypore Durbar further remarked that, whatever may have been the real intention of Luckdhere Singh in quitting Jeypore, all that was known of it by the Jeypore authorities was that he had gone on a religious pilgrimage.

64. In the month of July I again attempted, but without success, to bring about a reconciliation between the Ulwur Chief and the Thakoor, as reported to you in my letter, No. 92-25J., dated 17th July 1866.

65. In December last Luckdhere Singh returned to Jeypore, when the subject of his future asylum in that State was referred to you by the Maharajah, which resulted in the Thakoor being directed to take up his residence at some place other than Ulwur or Jeypore.

66. The claims of Jeypore and Ulwur arising out of Luckdhere Singh's proceedings are now being enquired into by Captain Roberts, Assistant Agent, Governor General, Rajpootana, appointed by you specially for that duty.

Shekhawattee.

67. The people of Shekhawattee still continue to be noted for their plundering propensities, and the remedies to be applied for bringing them to subjection is a subject which gives the Maharajah much thought and consideration, more specially since His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General on a late visit to Agra spoke to His Highness regarding the evil propensities of the Shekhawats. His Highness on a late occasion mentioned to me that he intended shortly to adopt special measures for the government of this country, but from the wild and independent character of the people, and the normal condition of dacoitee which exists among them, it will be necessary to act with great caution and tact to bring about a satisfactory state of affairs. I trust His Highness, now that he has been roused to take up the question, will act with vigour, in which case I have but little doubt that he will succeed and place matters on a satisfactory footing.

Mail robberies.

68. The subject of the responsibility of Native States for outrages committed on our mails in transit through such States attracted the attention of Government, and in June 1865 the opinions of the several Political Agents were asked as to the expediency of imposing such rules and restrictions on Native governments as would stimulate them to increased exertion for the security of the mails in transit through their territories.

69. The expediency of adopting such measures as were finally proposed by Government was readily appreciated by this Durbar, although His Highness expressed a hope that some consideration, when awarding responsibility, would be made where the State could show that it had used its endeavours to prevent as far as possible the commission of such outrages. His Highness also drew attention to the large amount of money expended by him yearly for the maintenance of an effective police corps to protect the several postal lines in his territory, also the large body of horsemen exclusively employed to accompany the mails and banghy parcels.

70. These measures being yet in their infancy, it would be premature to say with what success they have been attended, although I am

happy to be able already to report a very sensible diminution in this particular crime in the Jeypore State, the Returns for the year 1865-66 showing only four cases of mail robberies compared with nine and six respectively for the two years immediately preceding.

Thuggee and Dacoitee.

71. Early in 1865 the Government of India resolved to separate the agency for the suppression of Thuggee and Dacoitee in Native States from that of the General Superintendent, and to work it through the instrumentality of Political Officers attached to Native Courts, under the orders of the Agent, Governor General, and acting through the Native Durbars, and with the agency of the native officials of the respective Chiefs.

72. The proposition was cordially received by the Maharajah, and he promised the speedy adoption of the necessary measures for carrying out the instructions and proposals of Government in the matter; and in the month of August following His Highness reported the completion of these arrangements and their introduction into his State.

No. 105, dated 10th August 1865.

73. The nature of the system introduced by His Highness, as reported in my letter marginally cited, was the employment of a carefully selected and disciplined body of police (separate from the village police), consisting of one Superintendent and seventeen subordinate officers.

The Superintendent to have his head-quarters at Jeypore, and the seventeen subordinate officers to be distributed in as many zillahs, having attached to them bodies of horse and footmen varying in strength according to the circumstances of their respective localities. The Superintendent to receive his instructions from the Durbar direct, and his subordinates to be responsible to him for the peace and tranquillity of their respective divisions, acting independently of the zillah and other district officials, and furnishing daily reports to the Superintendent for the information of the Durbar. They are further to be continually moving about their beats, inspecting their several posts, and seeing that the village police are on the alert, and in cases of serious crime to repair to the spot and take immediate action for the arrest of the offenders, the collection of evidence, &c., &c., reporting the same for the information of the Durbar.

74. His Highness subsequently at my suggestion drew up a code of rules and instructions for the guidance of the Thuggee Officers in the execution of their duties; these rules, with certain modifications and additions made by me at the request of His Highness, affecting more particularly the district of Shekhawattee, where I considered special and more stringent measures were required, were finally approved by His Highness and carried into effect. A copy of those rules in the vernacular accompanied my letter to your address, No. 160-85, dated the 16th November 1865.

75. I have not been able to ascertain how these rules have worked in reducing crime in the Jeypore State, though to judge from the Returns of international cases in the last year compared with those of previous years they would seem to operate favourably.

Control of the Meena tribe.

76. The important subject of the suppression of crime, especially the crime of dacoitee in which it is notorious the Meena tribe have so large a share, has until very recently received but little attention from this Durbar. On my joining this Agency in March 1864 I found that the usual method was to endeavour to disperse the gangs and to compound with the robbers.

77. When Superintendent of the Meena Districts under the Haraotie Agency, where I had every opportunity of becoming acquainted with the peculiar traits of the Meena character and their predatory habits, I became fully convinced that to operate against them effectually and successfully measures were necessary which would control the movements of this lawless race at their homes, where it is notorious they rarely if ever commit depredations, and the system I introduced was as follows: A carefully prepared census was in the first place taken of the Meena population. This census was taken by villages, the heads of which were held responsible for the presence and good order at all times of the Meenas under their charge. The Meenas were mustered daily, and no one could absent himself without a leave certificate signed by the head of the village, and without finding ample security for his good conduct while absent. The ghats and highroads on the border, especially at the season of the year when the Meenas set out on their plundering excursions, were watched, and all who could not give a satisfactory account of themselves were seized and sent in for examination.

78. Having found this system to work admirably in Haraotie, I explained the same to His Highness on my joining this Agency, and suggested his adopting a similar course, which he shortly afterwards did, and apparently with good results, as it is reported that since that time there has been considerably less crime and fewer cases of dacoitee among this class than in former years.

79. The greatest difficulty, however, with which we have to contend in the suppression of dacoitee is that the officials instead of using their authority and influence for the maintenance of order and the apprehension of criminals are in league with the Meenas, and actually encourage them in their depredations that they may share with them in their spoil.

That such is the fact, was shown in a case which lately occurred, as reported to you in my letter, No. 17, dated the 12th February 1866, when the Governor of the district, the Nazim of Shekhawattee, was convict of having shared in the profits of a large dacoitee, and his influence was such that it was with some difficulty that I got His Highness to move in the matter and dismiss him from office. The punishment of this man will doubtless have its effect for the time, but unless each case of the kind is met with swift and condign chastisement the evil will be sure to continue.

Education.

80. During the year under report a very laudable desire has been manifested by His Highness to improve the institutions previously in existence, and to establish others which have for their object the moral and social elevation of the country.

81. On my arrival here in the beginning of 1864 I took a considerable interest in the College. Scarcely a week passed without my paying the schools a visit and examining the boys. The interest thus exhibited by my occasional visits, I am informed, had an excellent effect both on the pupils and teachers. There appeared, however, to me a want of method in the teaching, though the head master and two of his assistants had received a liberal education at the Government College at Agra, still they had never been grounded in the principles and practice of teaching, and as the success of education mainly depends upon the training given to the masters, I pointed out this defect to the Maharajah, and suggested to him that it would be a great benefit to the institutions if he would sanction the appointment of a regularly trained master for the English department. His Highness agreed with me, and three Baboos, who have for some years been trained at the Jongee Normal School* in Calcutta, were engaged for the English College. They appear to be doing well, are zealous and interested in their work, and since their appointment the school has advanced and become more popular: the English classes which formerly numbered 108 pupils are now increased to 182. There are 145 Sanscrit and Hindee, 71 Persian, and 87 Oordoo, or a total of 485, including English.

82. The separate class establishment for the education of the sons of the Thakoors has almost entirely failed. In this class there are 13 boys, 8 are sons of the higher officials of the State, and only 5 sons of Rajpoots, whose attendance has been very irregular, and their progress unsatisfactory,—indeed it is evident that their presence in the institution is occasional more by a desire to please the Maharajah than to wish to study and obtain the benefits of a good education. It is with pleasure, however, I have to report that, if their pride keeps them from attending school, some of the Chiefs are attending to their education at their own homes. Thakoor Gobind Singh of Chomoo, the adopted son of the late Minister Luchmun Singh, now in his 18th year, has been very constant with his studies, and made considerable advancement not only in Hindee and Oordoo, but also in English,—he speaks the latter tolerably well, considering the disadvantage under which he labours in only having a tutor who can converse with him in English. Thakoor Samuth Singh of Bugroo and a few others have also made fair progress.

83. I must not forget to mention that 4 boys passed the matriculation examination in 1865, and that, with the exception of the Thakoors' class, in all the other departments of the College there has been steady progress, and I have been enabled to observe within the last year a marked improvement, not only in the general arrangements and working of the College, but in the manner in which the individual classes have been taught. This improvement is due to the zeal and faithful manner in which the new head master, Baboo Kanti Chunder Mookurjee, conducts the duties devolving upon him.

84. Besides the College there are some 120 vernacular schools in the city, numbering about 3,000 scholars. In the majority of these schools Hindee only is taught, but there are several Oordoo and

* Established under the patronage of Mr. Bethune.

Persian schools where Mahomedans muster largely, and a few in which Sanscrit is taught.

85. In the districts there has been very little done by the Native Government for education, though the subject has the consideration of the Maharajah, and no doubt measures will be eventually adopted for carrying out the scheme.

86. Female education has received encouragement from the Maharajah. In April last a girls' school was opened in the city, when 25 girls enrolled themselves as pupils; these have been pretty regular in their attendance, and the number has varied between this and forty. The studies are of course as yet purely elementary, consisting of reading and writing Hindee and needle-work, in which many show considerable interest and aptitude. Owing to the want of efficient teachers the progress has not been such as could have been desired, but it is hoped that this may ere long be remedied, and that greater results may then be looked for, and that the desirable object of female education will make progress in Jeypore.

87. In connection with the subject of education, I may here mention that, at the suggestion of Sir Charles Trevelyan, when the Maharajah visited him in Calcutta in 1864, His Highness has sanctioned the establishment of a school of industrial arts, and arrangements are now being made for opening this most desirable institution.

88. Doctor Hunter, of the Madras School of Arts, who was lately deputed by Lord Napier to visit different parts of India with a view to report on the present condition of arts and manufactures in India, on his visit to this city expressed himself very much pleased with what he saw of the resources of Jeypore, and addressed the Maharajah on the subject, drawing his attention to the large means at his disposal for the development of science and art within his territory. He drwe more particular attention to the mineral wealth of Jeypore, and the abundance of raw material within his reach for artistic and other manufactures; and concluded by suggesting to His Highness the organization of a school of industrial arts at his capital, which, with the natural resources of his country and under proper instruction, could not fail to confer a great boon on all classes of the community, the benefits of which would not be confined to Jeypore alone, but would extend widely throughout India. The encouragement given by Dr. Hunter in his letter above referred to has made His Highness most earnest in his anxiety to carry out the schemes of improvement suggested by that gentleman.

A copy of Doctor Hunter's letter will be forwarded in a separate letter to your Office.

89. His Highness has also ordered out from England a library, consisting of standard works in every department of science, literature, and art, the number will exceed 2,000 volumes, in addition to a collection of all the principal Sanscrit works that have been published.

The Souvenir presented to His Highness by H. M.'s Government.

90. In the month of June 1864 Her Majesty's Government presented His Highness the Maharajah with a Souvenir in acknowledgment of the cordial appreciation in England of His Highness's

efforts to promote the object of the International Exhibition held in London in 1862.

This gift arrived in Jeypore in the month of October 1864, and was formally presented with a khureeta from His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General by the Political Agent at a Durbar held for the occasion and under the usual ceremonies. On receiving the Souvenir His Highness expressed himself highly gratified at the kindness and consideration of Her Majesty's Government in noticing his feeble efforts to contribute to the Exhibition; that he felt highly honored, and that he would continue to exert himself for the promotion of art and science as a loyal and faithful ally of Her Majesty.

His Highness has since contributed to the Exhibition held at Agra in February last and also to the Paris Exhibition for 1867.

Adoption of the English language.

91. In the month of June 1864 the Government of India drew attention to the expediency of adopting the English language in preference to the vernacular, as the official medium of communication between the Government and the rulers of Native States.

No. 78, dated 21st September 1864.

92. In my letter to your address, as noted in the margin, I had the pleasure to report the full concurrence of His Highness in the proposed measure; his ready appreciation of the advantages to be derived from it; and his willingness to adopt the change as soon as he could secure the services of an official who had received a better education and a more fitting knowledge of the English language than those now in his service. This difficulty having since been overcome, and a separate office having been formed for the English department, I am happy to be able to report most favourably on the introduction of the new system at this Court, and of the inclination of His Highness to extend the practice to the utmost of his power, the English language being now systematically adopted in all khureetas and other papers of importance addressed by the Chief to the Government of India or to this Office.

Public Works.

93. The chief public works in the Jeypore State under construction by the Native Government are the high roads between the capital and the Bhurtpore territory, leading to Agra on the east side, and the continuation of the same road from the city towards Ajmere on the west. The whole distance running through the Jeypore State is about 134 miles.

The distance, 80 miles of the section, towards Agra is completed with the exception of one mile of metalling on the Bhurtpore border.

94. This road runs across the natural drainage of the country, and is raised on an embankment averaging 2½ feet high by 36 feet wide. The metalling in the centre is 16 feet wide. The kunkur is put down in two layers of 4 inches each, or 8 inches. When loose this is rammed down and well consolidated, with a slight incline on each side to carry off the water.

95. The bridges and culverts are all completed, of these there are some 95 on 80 miles of road.

96. Of the section, 54 miles, towards Ajmere to the Kishengurh border, 42 miles of embankment have been constructed 36 feet wide,

and about 18 miles of metalling 14 feet wide, as far as Bugroo is finished. The metalling beyond Bugroo has been reduced to 12 feet at the suggestion of the Superintending Engineer, Major Pollard. Some 6 miles of this, or 24 miles in all, has been metalled.

The drains are now being proceeded with, and I trust by the end of the year 40 miles of metalling and bridging as far as Doodoo will be ready for traffic. The 12 miles of embankment to the end of the territory is now being thrown up, and will be completed before the setting in of the rains.

97. The amount expended in the construction of the road is about 5 lakhs of rupees.

98. A road is also proposed to be constructed, and to branch off at about five miles beyond Bugroo to the Salt Lake at Sambhur, a distance of 20 miles. This will be an important line when completed, and would do much towards increasing the salt revenues, from the better means of communication. The only mode in which the salt is now conveyed through the territory is on camels or pack bullocks, and the supply of these depends on the forage procurable, whereas a metalled road would admit of a bullock train.

Civil Work Buildings.

99. A jail situated on the south side of the city has been built, and four bungalows on the Agra road for the accommodation of travellers in addition to those made over by our Government to the Jeypore Durbar as sanctioned in Government letter, No. 1708, dated the 21st August 1865.

The jail consists of 6 squares or blocks—4 for male prisoners, the 5th for females, and the 6th in which the hospital is situated. For a Native State the jail arrangements are satisfactory, each ward is sufficiently large to locate 100 prisoners, allowing about 500 cubic feet of air for each man. The site has been carefully selected, and due precautions made for ventilation and drainage as well as cleanliness.

100. The Maharajah intends gradually to introduce the same system as obtains in the jails in British territory by enforcing in-door labour and applying the rules laid down for the guidance of our jails. Buildings are now being constructed for workshops within the space between the walls, and for which there is ample room.

101. The principal streets in the city are now being paved, drained, and metalled. Three of these have been completed, and as these are finished the smaller side and cross streets will be commenced upon.

102. There are many other works which are being carried on by the Maharajah, but those I have already noticed are the principal ones, and are under the control and supervision of Colonel Price, the Executive Engineer, whose services have been most valuable to the State. I have much pleasure in bringing to your notice the zeal and energy displayed by this officer in carrying on his work, and the satisfactory manner in which he has conducted his proceedings in the face of many difficulties with the Native officials and petty Chiefs through whose lands he has had to carry the line of road.

103. Besides the public works connected with the Native Government, Colonel Price has during the past year built a Telegraph Office for our Government for the use of the department stationed here, at a cost of

Rupees 9,071-12-1. Out-houses have yet to be constructed, and these will be taken in hand as soon as the estimates have been sanctioned.

104. I may here mention that the Maharajah has also called for estimates with the intention of constructing seraes or rest-houses for Native travellers at convenient distances on the main road to Agra and Ajmere; each of these are to have attached to them houses for guards to protect the line of road, instead of the huts now used.

105. A school of arts is also to be built, and as means will admit of it, roads to connect the principal marts with the capital. These will eventually act as feeders to the railway it is proposed should pass through this territory.

106. His Highness has accepted the subsidy of 20 per cent. allowed by our Government to Native Chiefs who construct roads at their own expense in their territories on account of the road now under construction in his State.

Electric Telegraph.

107. The telegraph line passing through the Jeypore territory is that from Agra to Deesa and Kurrachee. It is laid along the new metalled road *viâ* Mowah, Jeypore, and Doodoo on the Kishengurh border. The wire is supported on iron posts at an interval of about 100 yards.

108. The Office was first opened at Jeypore in April 1864, and the receipts realized in the following years are as follow:—

In 1864 (from April to December)			Rupees	2,836
„ 1865	„	„	„	6,610
„ 1866	„	„	„	8,307

The Office was first opened in a garden house about two miles from the city belonging to a Native banker, but during the past year, 1866, a new Office has been built at a cost of rupees as stated above, half way between the Agency house and the city, and a mile from either place.

109. To facilitate the transmission of Indo-European messages along this line, a second wire and insulators are now being placed on the posts along the line: this work, it is expected, will be completed through this territory by the end of April next.

Proposed railway in Rajpootana.

110. The project for the construction of a line of railway through Rajpootana, now under the consideration of the Government of India, has been promised the liberal support of this Durbar.

111. In my letter, No. 139, dated 9th October 1865, I reported the very warm interest which His Highness had evinced in the proposed undertaking and the amount of assistance he was disposed to give it. His Highness, while yielding all the material points, took exception to the concession requiring the gratuitous surrender of the property that might be located on the lands ceded to the Railway Company.

His Highness regarded this rather a severe requirement, remarking that, while he fully appreciated the good that would ultimately accrue to his State from the introduction of the railway, and however anxious he was to meet the views of our Government, he did not see how, in justice to his own interests, he could consent to make the heavy sacrifice that such a concession would entail. He remarked that as the

contemplated line would in all probability pass through a densely populated and rich portion of his territory, that the sacrifice in his case would be peculiarly heavy, falling, as it necessarily would, from the nature of the lands, chiefly on the State itself, and that he hoped the Government would, as far as this point was concerned, consent to grant a fair remuneration for the surrender of such property.

112. This point has again been urged on His Highness with reference to the remarks of Government on the exceptions taken by Native Chiefs in the above particular, and, though I have not yet officially received a reply from him, I am inclined to think from the conversation I have had with him since Mr. Sibley, the Chief Engineer of the East India Railway, made his inspection of the country, that he is not now disposed to throw any obstacle whatever in the way of the proposed undertaking.

Army of Jeypore.

113. The standing army of Jeypore, after deducting non-combatants, consists of—

Artillery	300
Cavalry, including jageerdar horse	3,450
Infantry	3,000
Nagas	6,000
Tuhseel sepoys	1,500
Total ..	14,250

114. *Artillery.*—The artillery are dressed like our own late Native artillery, and are armed with a sword. Although they are supposed to muster 40 guns, not more than 24 are fit to take the field, and the gun-carriages, which are provided with bullocks, are most of them quite unserviceable. Round chain and bar shot of beaten iron, and sometimes grape, are the missiles used by the artillery.

115. *Cavalry.*—This force consists of a khas ressalah, or body guard of 150 men, and five ordinary ressalahs of 300; the former have their horses provided by the State, and are armed with a sword, shield, and matchlock; the latter, while similarly equipped, are maintained on the Bargeer system.

In addition to these are the jageerdar horse furnished by the feudal Chiefs in return for grants of State lands.

This force, although supposed to number 5,000 horse, not more than 3,000 are regularly kept up, and the chief services they perform are the protection of our mails in transit through the State and in watching the borders and disturbed localities. They are all Rajpoots and proverbially loyal and faithful to their Chief's interests, but devoid of all discipline and order, and are a wild and independent rabble.

116. *Infantry.*—The infantry consists of four regiments of Telingas of 500 each, and two of Nujeebs of 600 each, or after deducting non-combatants, about 3,000. The Telingas are dressed in the uniform (red tunics) of the late Indian army, and armed with a flint musket and bayonet. A large portion of them are "Oudh" men, the Nujeebs being recruited chiefly from subjects of the State, and are dressed in blue padded coats and armed with matchlock, sword, and shield. Each regiment has five small guns on bullock

carriages attached to it: these guns are independent of the regular pieces of the artillery.

117. *Nagas.*—A class of religious mendicants, formed into four "jumayuts," or communities, having their head-quarters in as many parts of the country; each "jumayut" consisting of some 1,500 men.

The Nagas are reputed to be a daring band, seldom failing to carry out their orders however hazardous, and are so universally dreaded that their moral influence will accomplish what numbers alone could not do. They make a practice of plundering and devastating the localities to which they are sent; they never marry but adopt children; and their pay from the State is, irrespective of age, two rupees per mensem. They are armed with sword, matchlock, and spear, a few camel swivel guns being attached to each party.

118. *Tuhseel Sepoys.*—A body consisting of some 1,500 sepoys or police. They are armed as the Nujeebs are.

119. The whole of the Jeypore force is but indifferently drilled, and in comparison to our own troops but a mere rabble. The cost of its maintenance to the State is about 6 lakhs per annum. The troops are regularly paid every four months, and the service is a popular one.

120. An abstract of the cases tried by the International Court is given in the margin, and the Table appended to this Report and marked A. furnishes full information for the years 1864, 1865, and 1866. It will be observed there has been a considerable reduction in the total number of all classes of crime of an international character during the three years, the numbers being 245, 163, and 112 respectively. Of those which require particular notice are highway robbery without aggravated circumstances, the number of cases being reduced from 74 in 1864 to 54 in 1866, theft from 50 in 1864 to 22 in 1866, cattle-lifting from 79 in 1864 to 16 in 1866, while the cases of traffic in human flesh have increased by 2 in 1866. The Returns, however, only show the cases brought to the notice of this Office, and are not to be taken as a criterion for the amount of crime which may be brought to the notice of the Durbar.

International Court of Vakeels.

	1864.	1865.	1866.
Against the person.	8	5	3
Against property...	237	158	109
Totals ...	245	163	112

121. Within the last year the Court of Vakeels have been very regular in their attendance, and the members have worked well and got through the examination of the cases brought before them without any unnecessary delay.

122. The dispensaries and other charitable institutions maintained by the Durbar as well as by the Chief of Khetree are marginally noted. The supervision of those in Jeypore is under the Medical Officer attached to the Political Agency. His Reports on the working of them will have been furnished to you through the Superintendent of Dispensaries in Rajpootana. The institutions in the Khetree State have already been noticed in my remarks in reference to that Chiefship.

Medical Institutions.

Jeypore.—City and Branch Dispensaries, Midwifery Hospital, Jail Hospital, Lunatic Asylum.

Khetree.—Charitable Dispensary and Hospital.

Topographical Survey.

123. In the commencement of 1865 the topographical survey commenced its work within this territory, and has been in progress during the last two seasons. Captain Melville, in charge of the Gwalior Survey, addressed me desiring permission to survey the forts of Runthumbore and Kandahar on the eastern border of this State. You are aware of the importance attached to these places and the jealousy of the Durbar and the Rajpoots regarding the admittance of strangers into them. At my suggestion Captain Melville visited the capital, and was introduced to the Maharajah. After explaining to him the advantages and nature of the work in which Captain Melville was engaged, His Highness at once granted permission for the survey to be made. A special agent was deputed with Captain Melville with particular instructions, and the survey of Runthumbore as well as Kandahar was accomplished without any difficulty or hindrance. The city of Jeypore with the surrounding hills and forts was also surveyed, and an admirable map of the city and suburbs, on a scale of 500 feet to the inch, was drawn by Lieutenant Strahan, R. E.

124. There is no information in this Office as to the amount of work completed in this territory by the survey; but His Highness has ever been ready to render all the assistance in his power to the officers and parties employed. Complaints of annoyance have been made by some of the survey parties against some of the petty Chiefs through whose lands their work has been carried, but on each occasion, when brought to the notice of the Durbar, the individuals have been punished.

Religious discussions at Jeypore.

125. During the past year His Highness has had several public discussions in his palace, on which occasions all the priests of the several temples in the city of Jeypore have been assembled together. The subject discussed was with reference to the present form of Vaishnava worship, which, His Highness maintains, is opposed to the ordinances laid down in the Shastras. Many of the leading priests in the principal temples of Jeypore held opposite views, and their minds, as well as those of the people who frequent the temples of the Vaishnava sect, were much disturbed and alarmed, as rumours got abroad that the Maharajah intended to expel all those from the city who entertained views opposed to those of His Highness. The Maharajah took every favourable opportunity, however, to impress on the priests and people that such was not his intention, and that, although he held his own views of what he considered the true Hindoo religion, they were at liberty to follow their own doctrines.

126. In spite, however, of these assurances of toleration the alarm increased, when in the month of July last the priest of the temple of Gokuljee marched out of the city, taking the idol with him, and was followed by thousands of the inhabitants crying and giving vent to their feelings by loud and frequent expressions of grief and sorrow at the great calamity which had befallen the city of Jeypore.

127. The priest remained encamped for about a week within two miles of the city, where he was visited daily by all of the Vaishnava sect, imploring him to return, and it is said that he would have returned had the Maharajah given him any encouragement to do so. His

Highness's reply on the question being put to him is said to be, "he has left of his own accord, and he is quite at liberty to return in the same manner and remain without being interfered with."

Several other priests belonging to temples in Jeypore of the Vaishnava sect have also gone away quietly from fear of persecution.

128. It is not necessary perhaps for me to enter into particulars as to the part the Maharajah has played in the late religious discussion, as he has himself explained these in a pamphlet which was forwarded in a letter from this Office, No. 163-101, dated 24th November 1866.

129. The subject of the differences has also been discussed by Pundits at Benares, Muttra, &c., and in some of the public prints in India, and rumours have got abroad that His Highness's conduct towards the Vaishnava party has been harsh, and that the priests who left this were expelled or obliged to leave from the persecution they received; such, however, I am enabled to state from His Highness's own assurances, as well as from what others have told me who are in a position to know the real state of matters, is not the case.

The Maharajah has been most tolerant in all his proceedings, and though it is said prayers were offered for the Maharajah's death, and incantations and charms employed, nevertheless the villages given in grant to these temples and other privileges enjoyed by the priests are still continued to them, no pressure was brought to bear on the priests or their servants who left the city, they deserted of their own free-will, and are at liberty to return whenever they feel inclined.

Character of the Maharajah.

130. Of the Maharajah it affords me much pleasure to write in terms of praise. He is amiable, and does not readily take offence. He possesses a clear understanding, and is quick at grasping the merits of any question that may be brought to his notice. He has the welfare of his country and people at heart, and is desirous of introducing those reforms and improvements into his territories which becomes an enlightened ruler. He conducts the whole affairs of the administration himself, and endeavours to work it out to the best of his ability in a liberal spirit, but he has much to contend with in not possessing honest and trustworthy officials to carry out his reforms.

131. Of late he has applied himself to the duties of his government with much assiduity, though he is constantly subjected to having his attention drawn off by his courtiers and the many idlers who surround him, and who from interested motives endeavour to keep him from attending to business, and to occupy him with frivolous amusements.

132. His habits and tastes are very simple, and he does not indulge in that display of dress and jewellery which is generally the case with Native Princes. He is inclined to be parsimonious as regards his own personal expenditure, but is most liberal when it concerns any work of public benefit; this will be observed from the improvements now being made in the city, and the admirable roads which are in progress through the territory.

133. The failing I principally notice in His Highness's government is that he is much too lenient and forgiving in cases which should be severely dealt with, and there is a want of determination and decision in enforcing his orders; on the other hand, His Highness has shown every wish to stand well with His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General. He has always expressed himself as willing and anxious to be guided in all questions of material importance by the wishes of the British Government; though some of the requisitions may have been in opposition to his views, he has yielded rather than incur the risk of an unfavourable opinion.

134. During the last year the Maharajah has exhibited a disposition to associate more freely with the Political Agent and English gentlemen than has hitherto been his wont.

You may remember that formerly His Highness's visits to the Agent were restricted to the return visit on his first arrival and Christmas-day, when all due ceremony was observed.

His Highness has now entirely thrown off this reserve, and often pays me private and friendly visits, dispensig withal the ceremonies of his rank; and, as you will have observed on your late visit to this capital, His Highness occupied a seat at table with his English guests on all occasions, whom he entertains at the palace, instead of, as formerly, joining them after dinner in a different room.

135. I mention these facts to show that he has overcome many of those impediments and prejudices of the people by whom he is surrounded, who from interested motives endeavour to prevent that familiarity and friendly feeling which it is my aim to establish, and which it is most desirable should exist between the Political Agent and the Maharajah.

Agency Establishment.

136. Before closing this Report I have much pleasure in bringing to favourable notice the Head Clerk, Mr. Howard. He joined me in May 1864, and, though new to his work, he made himself master of all that had to be done in a very short time. He has received a liberal education, and is of good ability, has a thorough knowledge of accounts, and, though possessing but little knowledge of Oordu when he arrived, he has by his application and study made himself master of it.

He is now able to translate with readiness and tolerable accuracy most of the vernacular papers which pass through this Office. He has worked with untiring zeal, and I have always found him ready and cheerful in attending to all my instructions, and I have full confidence in his fidelity.

The rest of the establishment has also worked well and given full satisfaction, and I beg to commend them to your favourable consideration.

Conclusion.

137. In conclusion, I must apologize for the delay in sending in this Report, which I had wished to be much fuller and complete than it is; but I have waited in vain for Returns and information called for from the Durbar. Some of the Returns were supplied, but so incomplete as to be useless. Any shortcomings or omissions will, I hope, be treated with due consideration and indulgence.

A

Statement showing the working of the Jeypore Court of Vakeels for the years 1865 *and* 1866.

	1865.	1866.	REMARKS.
Under trial on 1st January ...	146.	105.	
Instituted during the year ...	122	89	
Total ...	268	194	
Decided on merits	48	46	The average duration of suits was 7½ months; and the percentage of decrees to claims 26·17. There were, in 1865, 10 cases of appeal, and 4 in 1866, of which 9 and 1 respectively were rejected.
Dismissed on default	106	60	
Adjusted or withdrawn	9	6	
Total ...	163	112	
Remaining unsettled on 31st Dec. ...	105	82	

NOTE.—There were 5 cases in which imprisonment was awarded by the Court in 1865 and 12 in 1866; the periods of imprisonment ranging from 6 months to 10 years, the shorter terms predominating.

JEYPORE,
The 30th March 1867.

(Sd.) W. H. BEYNON, *Major*,
Political Agent.

MARWAR AGENCY REPORT.

From CAPTAIN EUGENE C. IMPEY, Political Agent, Marwar, to COLONEL W. F. EDEN, Governor General's Agent, Rajpootana States,—No. 20-6P., dated Camp Lohana, the 19th February 1867.

As called for in your Circular, No. 1410, of the 3rd December last, I have the honor to submit the following remarks regarding the administration of Marwar for the official year ending on the 30th April 1866.

2. In my letter, No. 159-49P., of the 13th December last, I stated that I anticipated great difficulty in procuring the requisite Returns from the Durbar, and I now regret to add that, though I have since been to Jodhpore and personally requested them of the Maharajah, owing to the obstructiveness of the Durbar officials, up to the present date no Returns have reached me, so that really for this year, 1865-66, I have nothing but my own observations to offer. These are necessarily limited, as I assumed charge of the Agency only in May 1865, and in the first year gained but little insight into the internal administration of the State; this Durbar being, as you must be aware, not only very jealous of any inquiry into its affairs, but perhaps also the most determined to keep the Agent ignorant, and to debar him from direct intercourse with its officers.

3. The sketch of the export and import trade of Marwar, which I had the honor to furnish you with Returns in my letter, No. 46-7P.,* of the 9th April 1866, took some months to procure from the Durbar, and it was not till I extracted it bit by bit in a week's daily sitting with the Kamdars of the Raj that I succeeded in procuring the information I required with any degree of accuracy. I believe this Report was never forwarded to Government; if so, I would beg that it might accompany this letter, or at least the Returns appended to it.

4. I have already given in my Trade Report above alluded to the supposed area of Marwar to be 35,000 square miles, with an estimated population of 15,00,000, or 42⅞ per square mile. Of the revenue derived therefrom, it is impossible for me at present to give any reliable information. Apart from the fact that a great item in it is fluctuating, being derived from succession tax, "hookmnama," and other contingent sources, the State is so cut up into jageers of Thakoors, Ranees, Charuns, and off-shoots of former Chiefs of Marwar, that one-third of it may be roughly estimated as not yielding direct revenue to the Maharajah, and I doubt whether more than twenty-two lakhs, if so much, ever finds its way into the Raj coffers. Indeed, from the mismanagement and peculation of the Kamdars and middlemen, who pretend to carry out the Maharajah's orders and govern the country, the regular income suffers much reduction before it reaches the treasury.

5. The country is divided into 23 pergunnahs, or, as they are styled here, "kutcherries," presided over by separate "Hakims."

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* Note by Agent, Governor General.—This letter as also the Returns referred to were submitted to Government with my Report, No. 417, of the 7th June 1866.

Some are very small circles, comprising only one or two villages, whilst others are of considerable extent, such as Jodhpore, Jalore, Nagore, and Mairta. Most of them are so remote from the capital, the government itself is so lax, that these Hakims are almost irresponsible. It is only when some flagrant case of misbehaviour crops up, when the wrath of the Maharajah is excited, or interests at Court work against the Hakim, that his acts excite particular notice or supervision. So long as he keeps his district pretty contented, sends in his periodical contribution to the treasury regularly, and gets the Durbar into no difficulty, he is left to do much as he likes and enrich himself at the country's expense. From these very facts, as well as there being only six independent Kotwallies in the country, the Hakim possesses considerable criminal powers, which are backed by the quota of horse and foot under his orders in each district. Every fresh Hakim has to pay a heavy "nuzzurana" to the Maharajah before entering on office, and receives small pay, so the exactions he levies on his own account from the people are a natural consequence, and it can be easily imagined how much the sparse population and poor cultivation of Marwar is due to this short-sighted policy.

6. A considerable item in the revenue is derived from the customs, especially from the salt dues; and these are not levied by the Hakims but by a separate department, under direct management controlled at Jodhpore by the chief of the customs.

7. Courts do exist at Jodhpore for the trial of civil and criminal cases, but from the absence of any police system in the district these head Courts work in a most inefficient manner, and their influence is almost limited to the immediate vicinity of Jodhpore. The Criminal Court at Jodhpore is presided over by Pundit Sheo Narain, the Maharajah's Private Secretary, who is about the best official the Maharajah has, and he strives, I believe, to act justly.

8. The army is under the control of the Buxee, which office is, as in most Native States, an hereditary one. It is in a most inefficient state, being wretchedly paid, ill-armed and neglected; the best troops in it consist of a handful of Valayatees. There is a very large contingent furnished in feudatory service by the Thakoors, but as they are powerful and very refractory, and the service from long quiet has become of less importance than when the Rajpoots had to fight for their homes against Mussulman or Mahratta, or took foreign service, the quotas furnished to the Raj are generally insubordinate, incomplete, and inefficient, the Thakoors keeping the best men at home in their own following.

Education.

9. There are no departments for education or for public works in Marwar; the former is left entirely to the choice of the people, who are generally illiterate, though most of the Thakoors possess a fair knowledge of Hindee and Marwaree, and the trading class is in this country famous for their knowledge of accounts. Considering that there is no stimulus whatever given to education, and the country is so cut off from outer intercourse, I think the aptitude and taste for learning that exists, especially among the banking and josee (astronomer) class, is surprizing. The Scotch Mission at Beawur has been engaged lately in collecting and developing the dialect and literature of Marwar, and in the Maharajah's library at Jodhpore are said to be stored some of the most valuable Sanscrit and

Hindee works extant, which men come from Bombay and other places to transcribe.

10. The principal crops grown in Marwar consist of wheat, barley, bajera, and jowar. Grain is scarce, and I have never seen the poppy and sugar-cane growing except in a strip of garden ground. The country is essentially a grazing one for horned cattle as well as for camels, being covered with enormous tracts to the north and south and west of grass and thorn jungle. In parts the saltness of the ground and water defies all cultivation; whereas in others the water is so scarce, and found so deep in the hard rock below the sand, that agriculture is either unprofitable or impracticable. The annexed scale of the average price of provisions in Jodhpore for the year 1865-66 will show that ordinary prices there approximate famine prices in a more favoured district, and to this cause, added to the ill-government of the country, is to be ascribed much of the disorder prevalent.

Average prices of grain in Marwar during 1865-66.	Amount in seers (British measure) per Rupee.
Wheat	9½
Do. flour	9
Gram	10¾
Barley	12
"Bajera"	10¾
Ghee	1¼
"Jowar"	11
"Mote"	11
"Moong"	8
"Goor," coarse sugar	5¾
Oil (country)	3
Milk	15

11. The relative position of the Maharajah and his Thakoors has been frequently brought to the notice of Government by my predecessors, and forms the great obstruction to improvement in Marwar. For this and for other reasons of which you are aware I refrain from touching further on this question in this Report for 1865-66, and I trust to give it full consideration in my next Annual Report.

12. Ever since the receipt of your letter, No. 1410, of the 3rd December, and indeed since the 5th October, I have been of necessity continuously in camp, and it is only a few days ago that I received any statements to show what Returns were expected from me, or what the nature of this Report was intended to be. I regret, therefore, I am unable to give any detailed account of the work done in my own Office for the period under notice, and must confine myself to the following rough Statement of cases and proceedings that have come before me:—

Balance of undecided cases on the 30th April 1865.	Filed and decided from 30th April 1865 to 1st May 1866.	Balance undisposed of on 1st May 1866.
70	1,064	182

13. The following Statement will show the work done by the Marwar Court of Vakeels during the year 1865-66 :—

Balance of cases undecided on 30th April 1865.	Filed and decided during the year.	Balance undecided on 1st May 1866.
155	272	132

As presiding officer of the Court, I can confidently state that much care has been devoted to the inquiry into, and hearing of, these cases. The Court is composed of 8 Vakeels from the following States :—Meywar, Marwar, Jeypore, Bikaneer, Jeysulmere, Kishengurh, Sirohi, and Pahlunpore ; and I have much pleasure in testifying to the efficiency of this Court and the peculiar aptitude for business of most of its members. Every case has been finally heard and decided in my presence. The Court during this year held sessions at Jodhpore, Ajmere, Mount Aboo, and Balmere, to all of which places it accompanied me.

14. Trusting you will excuse the meagre nature of this Report, and the delay which has, for reasons given, occurred in submitting it.

From CAPTAIN EUGENE C. IMPEY, Political Agent, Marwar, to COLONEL W. F. EDEN, Governor General's Agent, Rajpootana States,—No. 63-2P., dated Camp Aboo, the 23rd April 1867.

HAVING so recently submitted a Report on the administration of Marwar, I will, in that which I have now the honor to make for 1866-67, confine my remarks to those matters on which I then refrained from dwelling, and notice the changes that have occurred in the State during the past year.

2. Of the forms enclosed with your Circular letter, No. 83, of 22nd January 1867, I annex those which I have been able to get filled in. Such as relate to climate and prisons I am wholly unable to submit with any hope of accuracy.

A.—Native Chiefs and principal members of their families.
B.—Population.

3. I also enclose further Returns marginally noted, which give much information obtained from the Durbar, and which appear pretty correct.

C.—Number and names of districts in Marwar.
D.—Customs stations.
E.—Return of Durbar Troops.
F.—Forts in Marwar.
G.—List of Villages.

4. Before entering on the immediate subject of this Report, it may be as well to give a sketch of the character and disposition of the present ruler of Marwar.

5. Maharajah Tukht Singh, G. C. S. I., has now occupied the throne for the past 23 years. Having been chosen by adoption to succeed the last Chief, Maun Singh, he came from the throne of ~~Edur~~ to that of Jodhpore. At Edur he had once held the position of a Vakeel; so he entered on his reign with more experience and self-dependance than he would have acquired had he passed his youth as heir to so large a territory. During the latter part of Maun Singh's reign,

when we exercised a direct interference between the Chief and his nobles, affairs had progressed smoothly; but after Tukht Singh gained independent authority the former state of faction and feud gradually returned, though not in the former warlike form. When the Maharajah succeeded he found most of his territory in the grasp of the Thakoors, the Kamdars, and the dependants of Maun Singh. The crown dues had been curtailed in every possible manner, and the revenue, without a return to exactions and resumptions, did not admit of the income requisite to maintain a force, and an establishment able to control so vast a country as Marwar, which for ages has been the field of plunderers and marauders. The Maharajah has told me that when he came to Jodhpore he did not find one elephant nor one jewel in the Toshakhana: thus he succeeded to heavy debts and responsibilities without any resources to meet them.

6. Though he brought with him from Edur few dependants, these men were regarded with distrust and dislike, and for his administration he had to fall back upon the families who for years had fattened on hereditary offices in Marwar. All these men's interests and sympathies were more or less mixed up with those of the Thakoors and ryots. Many were their bankers; and many used far less legitimate means to enrich themselves, and extend their influence at the expense of the Maharajah and the welfare of his State. In fact, the new Maharajah found both Thakoors and Kamdars in league against him in every measure of reform. The Thakoors were always ready to seize any pretext of evading the claims of the Durbar, while they universally failed to render their legitimate feudal service.

7. Having had to contend with this continual opposition, I fully believe the Maharajah found his only peace to consist in apathy; and now this course of indolence, a course which has injured none so deeply as himself, has been the growth of years: he finds it most difficult to rouse his energies, and to sever himself from the baneful influences that surround him. His large zenana, with its numerous hangers on, form one great clique continually biassing his judgment and justice, and his great failing, a love of drinking, at times incapacitates him for all business, perverts his right instincts, and renders him the easy tool of the minions, who watch their opportunity to warp him to their own ends. In his converse with strangers he puts on an air of forced affability, which impresses one as imbecility; but though he is undoubtedly on many points weak, he is in others firm and determined.

8. When we look at the small number of khalsa villages compared with those in jageer,* when we remember the great country he has to govern, the large family and all the dependants for whom he has to provide, can we wonder that Tukht Singh has been accused of avarice and greed. In his own establishment he has to maintain the most careful economy. The Ulwur Chief, with a territory of about one-eighth of Marwar in dimension, has far more funds for his private maintenance and expenditure. I thoroughly believe he considers our Government the best friend he has, and is perfectly loyal and disposed to carry out

* In the annexed form G. the crown villages number say 1,520, and the villages in jageer, &c., 3,980.

our wishes; but his habits, his officers, his means, all tend to thwart his good resolves and intentions.

9. In one respect the past year has been to me a satisfactory one. I believe I have succeeded in gaining an influence over the Maharajah, and in somewhat conquering his suspicious nature, and that he now feels there is no motive but his own good in measures I press on him; and thus the evil influence of his courtiers, who try to raise a barrier between our Political Officers and His Highness, has been somewhat checked.

10. When I first came to Marwar I was inclined to believe the Thakoors were an ill-used class of men, preyed on by the Durbar and its officials; but on further enquiry into their grievances I discovered several had no ground for complaint, whilst others had committed offences that, had they occurred under our rule, would have brought upon them far greater penalties than a weak government had been able to impose. Instead of assisting the Maharajah to suppress robbery and other crimes, they connive at them, and resent as a grievance any direct attempt either to suppress such crime or to punish the offenders, whilst many of the petty Thakoors live by plundering. While we hold the Maharajah alone responsible for the government of and maintenance of peace in Marwar, it is but just to remember that one-third, if not one-half, of his country is held by these Thakoors, who resent any interference and hamper any universal scheme of government. In no State, save perhaps Meywar, are there such large and powerful baronies as in Marwar. In Jeypore there are only two or three (for I except Khetree and those Chiefships which have independent powers and responsibilities), which can compare with ten or twelve chief jageers in Marwar; whilst those of the second and third class, dependants of the greater Thakoors, abound.

11. Undoubtedly the Maharajah has striven to annex jageers, but I really believe that his resumptive policy has not been nearly so profitable as it would have been, had he had the power and means to punish with justice every crime and offence the Thakoors and other jageerdars committed.

12. To remedy this state of affairs the Maharajah had been anxious to secure the services of fresh officials, and if possible of some English officers, so that, when the opportunity of gaining those of Colonel R. L. Taylor, C. B., presented itself, he at once, with the permission of Government, invited him to Jodhpore. Colonel Taylor only remained at Jodhpore from April till October of last year.* In reporting to you his departure I wrote:—"Colonel Taylor's secession is exceedingly to be regretted. He was an officer peculiarly fitted, by temper, ability, and resolution, for the task of controlling a corrupt and intriguing set of officials, which the old Kamdars and advisers of the Maharajah undoubtedly are, men who systematically thwart any measures for the improvement of the State and the abolition of peculation and misrule. Had he remained long enough a much better government, I feel sure, would have been established in Marwar, and the

Paragraph 5.

* Paragraph 10 of letter, No. 155-47P., dated 27th October 1866, to Agent, Governor General.

ill-feeling existing between the Maharajah and his Thakoors, which the Kamdars for their private gain have ever fomented and exaggerated, would have been much allayed, and consequent benefits of peace and mutual good will have ensued." I feel his loss to Marwar is exceedingly to be deplored.

13. In the absence of any independent and trustworthy Marwar official the Maharajah, when he lost Colonel Taylor, supplied his place by Hajee Mohamed Khan. The Hajee has now been appointed by the Maharajah the Dewan of the Raj, and has received supreme powers over all departments and officials in Marwar. He is the only man on whom the Maharajah considers he can thoroughly depend, and he has given proof that His Highness's confidence is not misplaced. I could instance several occasions where he has conquered the evil influences around the Maharajah, and effected much good.

14. As I have had occasion more than once to notice the Maharajah's resumptive policy, it is with considerable satisfaction that I can report there has been only one instance of the attachment of a jageer during the past year, I allude to the Ganerao estate. The last Thakoor, who was a drunken imbecile, died this cold season. Without the permission of the Durbar, and contrary, as the Maharajah informed me, to the wishes of the late Thakoor, a young brother was hurriedly placed in his room; and he tried to hold the jageer against the orders of his Chief. There was an undoubted wish on the Maharajah's part to secure the adoption and succession for one of his sons, the property being a fine one; but this could not be fairly done without the consent of the widow and the family, and this is not likely to be accorded. I have strongly urged the Maharajah to settle the succession and relinquish the estate quickly, and this he has promised to do.

15. Marginally is given a list of Maharajah Tukht Singh's sons, with their ages. These ten are supplemented by a host of illegitimate offspring. This large family, with its conflicting interests, is commencing to give a great deal of trouble, and will, as it grows up, and more especially after the father's decease, lead to much embarrassment.

	Age.
1. Jeswunt Singh	30
2. Zorawur Singh	23
3. Pertub Singh	22
4. Kishore Singh	18
5. Runjeet Singh	16
6. Bahadoor Singh... ...	13
7. Bhopal Singh	13
8. Madho Singh	10
9. Mohobut Singh	9
10. Mohobut Singh (No. 2).	1

16. The eldest son, Jeswunt Singh, was born at Edur, and Nos. 3 and 4 are also sons of the same mother. Zorawur Singh, the second son, born at Jodhpore, is of another mother, and there is already ill-feeling between the brothers. This is fostered by their adherents, on the ground that Jeswunt Singh, who was born before his father became Chief of Marwar, is not the heir, and it is Zorawur Singh's right to succeed. I fear Jeswunt Singh's succession will not herald much improvement in Marwar, for he is of a violent disposition and fond of bad company.

17. My correspondence and diaries will have shown the great difficulties the Agent experiences in the conduct of business with the Durbar. When I first took charge I found the rule was to allow my letters to pass unanswered, till the necessity for some had either passed over, or I had spoken personally to the Maharajah. Now I am glad

to say, from constantly urging the Maharajah in person on this point, and from fresh influences, that, though the evil still exists, there is not only more promptitude in replying, but also more readiness in meeting my wishes and advice. My most satisfactory work is carried on in personal interviews with the Maharajah.

18. On the confines of Marwar and Bikaneer, at the angle where these two States march on Shekhawattee, lie the estates of two Rajpoot clans, the Jodhas of Marwar and the Bedawuts of Bikaneer. Their proximity has always caused rivalry, while their divided allegiance has made them more difficult of control. In 1865-66 their quarrels broke out into open warfare; the raid on one clan led to retaliation from the other. The peace of the border became seriously disturbed, and the neighbourhood the rallying ground for plundering bands of Shekhawuts and others. The traffic with Hissar and the Punjab was interrupted, and traders were attacked and robbed. These evils and the measures taken to correct them by myself and the two Native governments concerned were detailed in my letter, No. 41-4P., of 30th March 1866, so I will only briefly allude to them here. With the consent of both parties Thakoor Kesree Singh, of Koochawun in Marwar, was deputed as mediator between the two clans. An official of my selection, whom from previous experience I could trust and knew to be peculiarly fitted for the duty, Lalla Deep Singh, was also sent to assist Kesree Singh. These measures were, as reported in my letter, No. 86-21P., of 27th June 1866, quite successful. Past feuds were amicably adjusted, peace entirely re-established, and the Jodhas and Bedawuts took oaths to abstain from further warfare.

19. Bikaneer has, however, lately made fresh complaints against the Jodhas, accusing them of raids on Bedawut villages, and I have just got a complaint of exactly contrary purport from Marwar accusing the Bedawuts of plunder in Jodha villages. To the Bikaneer plaint Marwar replies, that the raids complained of are committed by Bikaneer rebels, and this rejoinder Bikaneer does not deny, but meets it by saying, if this is the case, the rebels issued from Marwar. Whatever the truth may be, and it will after inquiry in the International Court of Vakeels be elicited, it will be incumbent on the Political Agent to visit this border next marching season, and advisable to summon the Koochawun Thakoor, and to try with the aid of both Durbars to place matters on a more permanent footing of peace, and repress both faction and maraud-ing.

20. The postal lines of the Government mails through Marwar consist of one from Agra *viâ* Ajmere to Deesa and Bombay, traversing the State from Burr to Erinpoora, a distance of 112 miles, with a sorting Post Office at Pallee, and a branch line thence to Jodhpore, 44 miles, and the line from Ajmere to Sambhur, Nowah, Koochawun, and Deedwanah of Marwar, with Post Offices at all these places. These lines, from the wild and lawless country they pass through, are much exposed to robbery, especially the banghy mails, which often contain gold in leaf, jewels, and light precious fabrics obtained by Native shroffs from Delhi, Benares, and Patna. The efficient guarding of them has been a source of much correspondence, and of continual injunctions laid by yourself and this Office on the Durbar. I regret to say that the arrangements for their protection cannot yet be considered satisfactory.

Still the Maharajah has lately given stringent orders for their effectual protection by posts of horsemen along the routes, with orders for a couple to accompany each mail runner, and the hindrance placed by some of the local authorities on the passage by night of the parcels mails, by refusing to allow horsemen to escort them, has also been removed by peremptory orders from the Maharajah. So I trust this complaint will not be again preferred. The reason for this obstruction is apparent, the authorities feared robbery by night, with consequent responsibility and blame.

21. Nevertheless, only one mail was robbed in Marwar during the past year.

No. of Parcels.	Contents.	Value. Rs. a. p.
1	32 Balabundas	245 10 0
	2 Mundeels (Turbans) ...	13 12 0
	2 Doopattahs	45 4 0
	Total, Rs. ...	304 10 0
2	14 White Balabundas ...	115 2 0
	2 Silk Turbans	15 4 0
	Total, Rs. ...	130 6 0
3	13 Balabundas	77 12 3
	Total, Rs. ...	77 12 3
4	20 Balabundas	145 5 3
	Total, Rs. ...	145 5 3
5	20 Balabundas	120 6 3
	Total, Rs. ...	120 6 3
6	19 Balabundas	134 4 0
	Total, Rs. ...	134 4 0

The parcels mail was attacked on the 11th February 1867 at Peepulia near Soojut by nine mounted plunderers, and sacked of its contents as marginally given. The one Raj horseman who accompanied the mail was severely wounded in his defence, and has since died of his wounds. In the former year 1865-66 two mails were robbed, and in 1864-65 three mail robberies occurred.

22. Of roads there is not one worthy of the name in Marwar; indeed in many parts of the State tracks are scarcely distinguishable. I would, however, while on this subject, beg to draw attention to the road between Ajmere and Deesa. This road is an imperial one, being the line of route for all mails, troops, and travellers; though unmade through Marwar, excepting a short strip close to Pallee, the country is hard and open, so the necessity for a made road is not so much felt, but through the Ajmere and Sirohi Districts, where the ground is rocky and cut up by nullahs, from not being repaired after each rains as it formerly was, it has become almost impassable for any conveyances but the small strong country cart. Even cotton is therefore mostly carried south on camels, and the interests of Government suffer, not only from the consequent great expense of carriage and the difficulty of procuring it, but from the time occupied in the conveyance of military and other stores to Nusseerabad being nearly doubled by their passage over so bad a road.

23. In my last Report I mentioned the total absence of any police system, and this has been one of the points to which I have continually drawn the Maharajah's attention; at last with some success he has now started a scheme, which, though scarcely sufficient for the extent of territory, is somewhat satisfactory. It consists in a distribution of the country into four divisions, with separate officers and subordinate departments, a proportionate body of troops being cantoned at the head-quarters of each division, with detachments in the districts, and one controlling officer over all.

24. I trust I may be able to induce His Highness to remodel both the army and the revenue system. For the former he solicited from

Government* the services of an officer, but his request was not granted; and as yet he has taken no other step to discipline his useless rabble. With careful management the revenue from land, customs, and other sources might be increased one-fourth beyond the present yield. To show the dishonesty of the Kamdars and the neglect paid to revenue matters I will give an instance communicated to me by Colonel Taylor. He had proved that for years a Thakoor had annexed to his own jageer the land of 14 crown villages. These villages had long before been separated in the re-adjustment of the jageer; but, though the names of the villages stood in the Raj list of khalsa villages, the land of them was not forthcoming, the Thakoor had appropriated it, swept away the old villages, and planted his own hamlets in their room. This is one of many instances to the same effect. There are villages held in jageer and appropriated by Kamdars and others without any right or order. Once having been temporarily made over to them for management, they remained sequestered and forgotten.

25. Turning to my own especial duties during the past year, I have to report that from the 5th October 1866 till the 27th March 1867 I was uninterruptedly in camp, and marched *viâ* Sambhur and Jeypore to Agra, back to Ajmere, and through Godwar to Pallee, visiting Jodhpore, thence to Jalore and South-western Marwar through Mullanee and back to Jodhpore. I held sessions at Mount Aboo, Jodhpore, Ajmere, and in Camp for the trial of international cases, the list of which has this year,† as the annexed Statement shows, much increased.

Cases undecided on 1st April 1866.	Filed from 1st April 1866 to 31st March 1867.	Total of Cases for year.	Decided from 1st April 1866 to 31st March 1867.	Balance undecided on 31st March 1867.
122	358	480	257	223 Many of these cases are ready for final decision at the approaching sessions at Mount Aboo.

26. As reported to you in my letter, No. 7-3J., of the 17th January 1867, Rupees 63,250-14-2 of the award against Jeypore for raids committed by Goolur, Ulneeawass, and other rebels on Marwar villages in 1857-58 were paid in my presence to the sufferers. And during the year Rupees 10,737-8-6 have been paid by me to plaintiffs for decrees in the Court of Vakeels.

27. I have decided also several boundary cases, one between Meywar and Marwar in the Dessooree Pass lately opened by Major Nixon, where there was considerable contention; another, a difficult line of border between Marwar and the Mullanee District, on the confines of the two jageers of Cheetulwana and Godha, and several others of minor importance either settled by me or in my presence. But there are, as I have already stated in my letter, No. 78-16P., of 11th June 1866, miles and miles of disputed boundary, especially between Marwar and Jeysulmere, and Jeysulmere and Bikaneer,

* *Vide* my letter, No. 111-22P., dated 6th August 1866.

† My Report for 1865-66 (paragraph 13) showed only 249 cases were filed that year.

which require one officer's undivided attention to decide, and for the settlement of which I would beg strongly to advise the deputation, as in former days, of one of the Assistants of the Rajpootana Agency. These boundaries would fully occupy one officer for six months. If they are not settled before the topographical survey now employed in Eastern Rajpootana arrives in these parts, not only will much of the value of its work be lost, but it will be much embarrassed in its operations.

28. The annexed abstract shows the number of cases which have been filed and decided in this Agency during the past official year and the number now on the file.

Cases undecided on 1st April 1866.	Filed from 1st April 1866 to 31st March 1867.	Total during the year.	Decided from 1st April 1866 to 31st March 1867.	Balance undisposed of on 31st March 1867.
126 *	1,001*	1,127	794	333

29. I annex a further Statement giving the nature of the cases decided.

Nature of Offences.	No. of Cases.
Murder	4
Suicide	3
Culpable homicide...	0
Rape	0
Dacoitees with murder	2
Dacoitee	0
Highway robberies	16
House-breaking	1
Mail robberies	1
Cattle-lifting and ordinary thefts	146
Receiving stolen property	6
Boundary cases	5
Miscellaneous	614

* Besides these, which are purely cases remaining in this Office, 3,228 cases returned to other Offices, reports and miscellaneous papers not retained in Office have been heard, and orders passed thereon.

30. I am happy to say the Office establishment has given me satisfaction and worked well. I notice this more particularly, as of all the chief Agencies this Office is the worst paid and the most unpopular, more especially owing to the great amount of marching through an expensive and disagreeable country.

31. The humane exertions and the professional ability of the Agency Surgeon, Dr. W. Moore, are well known to you, and it is with much pleasure I can report on the really efficient state of the three dispensaries in Marwar, *viz.*, those at Jodhpore, Pallee, and Balmere. Detailed Returns and Reports of these useful institutions have reached you periodically, so I will only give the following abstracts, which are for 1866, to show the work performed and the cost of the dispensaries:—

MARWAR DISPENSARIES.

Summary of Reports for the year 1866.

INSTITUTIONS.	No. of patients treated.	*Surgical operations performed.*		No. of Vaccinations.	Total Expenditure.	REMARKS.
		Major.	Minor.			
					Rs. a. p.	
Jodhpore Dispensary ...	2,451	19	68	...	1,914 5 5	The expenditure of the Jodhpore Dispensary includes two Vaccinators' pay and Superintendent's allowance. The Mullanee Dispensary includes one Vaccinator's pay. Three Native Doctors receive a salary of Rupees 515 (Jodhpore), Rupees 240, (Pallee), and Rupees 275 (Mullanee). The cost of some surgical instruments is also included in the Jodhpore and Mullanee expenditure.
Do. Jail ...	139	...	...	3,933	.....	
Pallee Dispensary ...	3,158	9	45	...	527 15 6	
Mullanee do. (opened in February 1866) ...	1,120	...	21	...	584 15 3	
Total ...	6,868	28	134	3,933	3,027 4 2	

32. We suffered a considerable loss in the destruction by fire of almost all the new instruments and medical stores at Balmere. A building was in course of preparation, when the hut in which they were temporarily placed, from some cause never discovered, caught fire in the night. This dispensary, from its recent introduction, having been only established in February 1866, has not attained so efficient a state as the others. I am anxious to get another dispensary founded at Nagore, and shall keep this object in view till I gain the consent of the Maharajah. We shall then have four dispensaries well distributed over Marwar, two in the centre, and two in the east and west corners. In time perhaps we may get another one sanctioned for Philowdee, a town on the Jeysulmere and Bikaneer frontier, on the northern boundary of Marwar, and remote from any medical aid.

33. Having now reported on the administration of Marwar, and mentioned all the chief occurrences and work done therein during the past twelve months, which seem to me worthy of notice, I trust my present narrative may meet with the approval of yourself and of the Viceroy and Governor General of India.

A.

The Chief and principal male members of his family.

Names of individual, and State and family to which he belongs.	Present position.	Caste or race; religion.	Age.	How educated.	How employed.	Has Sunnud authorizing adoption or not.	Family follows primogeniture or not.	Has male heirs or not.	REMARKS.
Maharajah Tukht Singh of Marwar.	An independent Chief in alliance with the British Government.	Hindoo; Rajpoot of the Rahtore tribe.	50	Reads and writes well in Marwarree and Hindee.	...	Has Sunnud.	Follows primogeniture.	Has ten male heirs.	Description of members of the family given separately.

(Sd.) E. C. IMPEY,
Political Agent.

B.

POPULATION.

DISTRICT.	Inhabited Houses.			Population.					Number per square mile.	Classification of Population.								Occupation.		Prevailing languages.	Emigration or immigration during the year.
	Number of Masonry Dwellings.	Ditto of all other kinds.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Children under 12 years.		Total.		*Christians.*			Hindoos.	Mahomedans.	Parsees.	Buddhists and Jains.	Aborigines.	Agriculturists.	Non-agriculturists.		
						Male.	Female.			European.	East Indians and other mixed classes.	Natives.									
Marwar.	94,500	4,75,500	5,70,000	10,93,000	14,02,000	2,00,000	1,55,000	28,50,000	58	1	...	4	24,93,741	3,56,250	4	1,78,122	...	18,81,250	9,63,750	Marwaree and semi-Guzerattee.	...

This Return was received from the Durbar, and is given without correction, but the Political Agent believes the numbers, especially as regards the population, are exaggerated.

(Sd.) E. C. Impey,
Political Agent.

C.

Number and Names of Districts in Marwar.

1.	Jodhpore.	9.	Marote.	17.	Jaitarun.
2.	Jalore.	10.	Purbutsur.	18.	Philowdhee.
3.	Sachore.	11.	Nanva.	19.	Puchbudra.
4.	Bheenmal.	12.	Sambhur.	20.	Shio.
5.	Nagore.	13.	Kanola.	21.	Ballee.
6.	Deedwana.	14.	Soojut.	22.	Sivanah.
7.	Kolia.	15.	Pallee.	23.	Bilara.
8	Dolutpoora.	16.	Mairta.		

(Sd.) E. C. IMPEY,
Political Agent.

D.

	Customs Stations.	No. of Stations.
1	Jodhpore within the Town	14
	Within the Villages	26
1	Jalore within the Town	5
	Within the Villages	12
1	Nagore within the Town	7
	Within the Villages	24
1	Soojut within the Town	7
	Outside within the Villages...	12
1	Godwar within the Town of Ballee	3
	Within the Villages	21
1	Mairta within the Town	7
	Within the Villages	24
1	Jaitarun within the Town	1
	Within the Villages	9
1	Philowdhee within the Town	1
	Within the Villages	2
1	Pallee within the Town	9
	Within the Villages	2
1	Bheenmal within the Town	1
	Within the Villages	1
1	Sachore within the Town	1
	Deedwana ditto	7
	Within the Villages	1
1	Dolutpoora within the Town	1
	Within the Villages	6
1	Marote within the Town	4
	Within the Villages	22
	Purbutsur within the Town	3
	Within the Villages	18

(Sd.) E. C. IMPEY,
Political Agent.

E.

Abstract Statement showing the total number of His Highness the Maharajah of Jodhpore's Military Forces for 1866-67.

No.	Description of Forces.	Cavalry.				Artillery.		Infantry.	Remarks.
		Government Bageer. Horses.	Feudal Horses.	Paid Ressalahs.	Total.	No. of Guns.	No. of Gunners.		
1.	Troops employed in the provinces on Police duties, and, when required, for service in the Field and Detachment duty.	494	3,700	1,039	5,233	30	240	1,068	
2.	Employed on Garrison duties in Forts, and attached to Kotwallies and Kutcheries for various duties.	103	...	...	...	...	...	3,021	
	Total ...	597	3,700	1,039	5,233	30	240	4,089	

(Sd.) E. C. Impey,
Political Agent.

F.

Number of Forts in Marwar.

No.	Names.	No. of Guns.
1.	Jodhpore	125
2.	Jalore	25
3.	Nagore	27
4.	Sivanah	5
5.	Philowdhee	4
6.	Ballee	6
7.	Dessooree	5
8.	Mairta	
9.	Soojut	3
10.	Dolutpoora	6
11.	Purbutsur	4
12.	Nanva	
13.	Girab (in Shio)	2
14.	Kanola	3
	Total ...	215

The above are all the principal forts held by Durbar troops; there are other minor forts held by the jageerdars.

(Sd.) E. C. Impey,
Political Agent.

G.

List of Villages.	No. of Villages.	Grand Total.
Villages held by the Thakoors or Rajpoots	2,584	
Ditto by the Ranees...	182	
Ditto by Khalsa or Crown	725	
Ditto by Charuns, Bharuts, and Brahmins, &c. ...	570	
Ditto by other dependants	404	
The villages of "Soorachund" washed by the Loonee ...	550	
Ditto of the table-land in Shio, some held by Bhomias, some khalsa, and some deserted	485	
		5,500

(Sd.) E. C. Impey,
Political Agent.

BHURTPORE AGENCY REPORT.

CHAPTER I.

A. Physical Geography, including area, character of the surface, and climate.

1. The Jat principality of Bhurtpore lies between the 26th and 28th degrees of north latitude, and 77 and 78 degrees of east longitude. It is bounded on the west by the Ulwur State, on the south by the States of Jeypore, Kerrowlie, and Dholepore, and portions of the British district of Kheyragurh of Agra, on the east by the British districts of Muttra and Agra, and on the north by the British districts of Poonahana and Ferozepore, subordinate to the Government of the Punjab.

2. The State is divided into 13 pergunnahs as under:—

1. Bhurtpore.	5. Weir.	10. Nugger.
2. Roopbass.	6. Bhusawur.	11. Gopalgurh.
3. Ochein and Roodawul.	7. Akheygurh.	12. Paharee.
	8. Kombhere.	13. Kaman.
4. Biana.	9. Deeg.	

Area.

3. The area of the whole, according to the revenue survey conducted by Lieutenant (now Major) George Hamilton from the year 1855 to 1858 inclusive, is 1,974·09 square miles, or 12,63,408 .acres. This, however, includes the estate of Bullubgurh, which is in extent 22·95 square miles, and has an area of 14,674 acres; this estate belongs to Foujdar Goberdhun Singh, one of the Sirdars of the Raj.

Character of the surface.

The character of the surface is generally flat, but there are large ranges of hills towards the south, and hills are also met with towards the north and west. The highest range is situated to the west, which, at a place called Alipore, reaches to the height of 1,357 feet above the level of the sea; whilst the lowest, Madhoni, a short distance from Bhurtpore itself, is 724 feet above the sea level. The latitude, longitude, and height above the level of the sea of the different ranges of hills situated in the Bhurtpore territory are given in the margin. The upper strata of the plains is generally a light loam, which in some of the pergunnahs watered by the Bangunga or Ootungun is much degenerated by sand.

No.	Names of Stations.	Latitudes.			Longitudes.			Height above the sea level.
		Deg.	*Min.*	*Sec.*	*Deg.*	*Min.*	*Sec.*	
1	Alipore ...	27	08	34·12	77	01	35·32	1,357
2	Chupra ...	27	43	53·94	77	03	00·55	1,222
3	Dindima ...	26	54	22·95	77	17	35·32	1,222
4	Manpore ...	27	38	08·52	77	24	02·29	826
5	Madhoni ...	27	13	46·51	77	28	08·36	725
6	Russia ...	27	26	13·55	77	12	52·05	1,065
7	Usira ...	26	57	03·40	77	40	19·85	817

Forests.

4. In the vicinity of Bhurtpore, and to the south-east of it, is an extensive game preserve locally known as the "ghunna." It is in length about seven miles, and at its broadest part about a mile and a quarter in breadth. The principal trees in this ground are the babool: others do not seem to thrive. At Roopbass there is also another game preserve, which in former times was a favourite shooting ground of the Emperor Akbar, Roopbass being only about eight miles from Futtehpore Sicri, the country seat of the Emperor.

5. To the south of the district, and to the east of the river Gumbheer, situated in the pergunnah of Biana, is a large tract of country called the Dong. It is completely broken up by ravines, is very difficult of access, and covered with jungle. The higher portion is flat. This tract is entirely inhabited by Goojurs, who cultivate small plots of land wherever they are able; but their livelihood is chiefly gained by keeping large herds of cattle.

Rivers.

6. The principal rivers in the Bhurtpore territory are the Ootungun or Bangunga, the Roopareil, the Gumbheer, and the Kakund. None of these rivers are navigable. The first named, Ootungun, rises, I believe, in the Jeypore hills, and entering the Bhurtpore territory at the west, runs right through the district, and flows into the British territory somewhere near Futtehpore Sicri.

The Kakund nuddee enters the Biana pergunnah of Bhurtpore from Kerrowlie, and also empties itself into the Ootungun.

The river Roopareil enters Bhurtpore near Seecree in the pergunnah of Gopalgurh. For years past the waters of this river have been a source of much contention between the people of Ulwur and Bhurtpore. But in the year 1855 the late Sir Henry Lawrence, then Agent, Governor General, for Rajpootana, decided that the water of the river should be allowed to flow freely into the Bhurtpore territory from the 10th of June to the 9th of October. The Ulwur people complain that they suffer great loss from the carrying out of this order, but I do not think they have any real cause for complaint. They have a large number of bunds in their own district, into all of which water is carried before it reaches the Seecree Bund, and in this way four or five pergunnahs of Ulwur receive an ample supply of water. If it was not for the Roopareil the pergunnah of Gopalgurh, one of the largest in Bhurtpore, would be almost barren. The various works connected with these rivers, and the measures taken for utilizing their waters, as also the system of drainage to be adopted, will be found fully reported in the Chapter on public works.

Climate.

7. On this subject I regret that I am unable to give any information derived from statistics, as hitherto no meteorological observations have been made at Bhurtpore. In future Reports I hope I may be able to give some information on this interesting subject. The rainfall at Bhurtpore, as registered by Lieutenant Home for the rainy season only of 1866, was 20·37 inches, of which 0·80 fell in four days of June, 9·65 in fourteen days of July, 9·10 in sixteen days of August, and 0·82 in two days of September. So that during the monsoon rain fell only on 36

days. This, however, does not include days on which slight showers fell. Considering the number of days on which rain fell, the amount of fall must be considered good, but I think it is somewhat below the average, which I should put at 22 inches for the rainy season. Although a register was kept only at the station of Bhurtpore, I think the fall was general throughout the district.

B.

Political relations of the Bhurtpore State with the British Government.

The political relations of the Bhurtpore State with the British Government commenced in the year A. D. 1803, when the first Treaty was made with Runjeet Singh, the great-grandfather of the present Maharajah Jeswunt Singh. Soorujmul, the grandfather of Runjeet Singh and great-grandson of Brij, the original founder of the principality, made himself master of a large tract of country which extended towards the east as far as the Ganges, and on the north-west as far as Delhi, which he besieged and took possession of. He would seem to have been a man of great taste as well as a great conqueror, the beautiful palaces of Deeg, the fortress of Bhurtpore as well as that of Weir, with the palaces of Kombhere, still remain as monuments of his greatness. Soorujmul whilst out hunting in A. D. 1763, in the sixtieth year of his age, was killed, having been surprized by the army of Nujjuff Khan, whom he had gone to call to account for his rigorous treatment of the captive Kings of Delhi who were under his charge. Jowahir Singh, the eldest son of Soorujmul, who succeeded him, was slain on a shooting excursion from Agra, and his brother, Ruttun Singh, became Rajah in his place. He was stabbed by a Goosaeen, whose daughter he had seduced. Upon this Nawul Singh, the third son of Soorujmul, took the government of the country into his hands in trust for Kairee Singh (a minor), son of Jowahir Singh, who had also been adopted by Ruttun Singh. Kairee Singh died a minor, and Nawul Singh succeeded to the guddee in his own right. Upon this a younger brother, Runjeet Singh, rebelled, and Nujjuff Khan, the great Pindaree leader, taking advantage of the feud going on between the two brothers attacked the Jats, and possessed himself of all their country, except the fortress of Bhurtpore, which was held by Runjeet Singh. Nawul Singh was at the fortress of Deeg, but when the army under Nujjuff Khan were entering the place he slew, or caused to be slain, all his wives, and himself took poison. At the prayer of Kishoreejee, the widow of Soorujmul, Nujjuff Khan restored to Runjeet Singh territory worth nine lakhs of rupees. But at the death of Nujjuff Khan the Mahrattas took possession of all the country he had gained, including that which had been made over to Runjeet Singh. The old widow of Soorujmul, Kishoreejee, again interceded on behalf of her son, and obtained from the Mahrattas eleven pergunnahs of the fourteen now making the Bhurtpore territory, and the remaining three—Kaman, Gopalgurh, and Paharee—were afterwards ceded to Runjeet Singh by General Perron for services rendered to him.

In A. D. 1803, after the dispersion of Scindhia and Holkar's marauding forces, the British Government ceded to Runjeet Singh the districts of Kishengurh, Kuthoomur, Rewaree, Gokul, and Sahar, but these territories were again resumed after the first siege of Bhurtpore in 1805, when the fortress was attacked by General Lord Lake owing

to Runjeet Singh refusing to give up Jeswunt Rao Holkar, who had taken refuge with him after the battle of Deeg.

Runjeet Singh died leaving four sons, the eldest of whom, Rundheer Singh, succeeded him. He reigned for 18 years, and was followed by his brother Buldeo Singh, who reigned only for about a year and a half. At his death Bulwunt Singh, the father of the present Rajah, became the rightful heir to the throne, but Doorjunsal, his cousin (being a son of Lutchman Singh, one of the sons of the late Rajah Buldeo Singh), usurped the throne, seized the fortress of Bhurtpore, and imprisoned the rightful heir. In January 1826 a British force again attacked the Bhurtpore fortress, this time under the command of Lord Combermere, who stormed and captured it. Doorjunsal fled, but was taken prisoner and sent to Allahabad, and the young Maharajah Bulwunt Singh was secured in his possession by the British Government. In 1835 Bulwunt Singh was put in charge of the administration which had lately been carried on by a Council of Regency under the superintendence of a Political Agent. Bulwunt Singh died in 1853, and was succeeded by his only son the present Rajah Jeswunt Singh, who completed his sixteenth year on the 1st of March last.

C. Civil divisions of the Bhurtpore territory.

The Bhurtpore territory is divided into two divisions as far as the civil administration is concerned. The first under the Adawluttee of Bhurtpore consists of the following pergunnahs:—Bhurtpore, Kombhere, Akheygurh, Bhussawur Weir, Biana, Ochein and Roopbass. The area of this division is 1,300 square miles, and the number of villages contained in these eight pergunnahs is 642.

2. The second division comprises the pergunnahs of Deeg, Kaman, Gopalgurh, Paharee, and Nugger. The area of this division is 653·76 square miles, and the number of villages 518. At the head of each pergunnah is a Tehseeldar, who has judicial powers, and is subordinate to the Adawluttee.

D. Population.

I am sorry to say I cannot give in this Report the population of the Bhurtpore territory. When Major Nixon was making the summary settlement of Bhurtpore in 1855-56 a rough census was taken, but I do not think it was a correct one. It is proposed to have a census taken this year, and on its completion I will duly inform you of the result.

E. Fiscal.

A new revenue settlement was made by the Durbar officials under my supervision in 1862 for a period of six years, or from Sumbut 1919, A. D. 1862-63 to 1924, A. D. 1867-68, inclusive. The total amount of revenue under this settlement on the whole of the villages, including those set apart for the use of the Deorhee, or ladies' establishment, is a little more than 16½ lakhs of rupees. This is an increase on the last settlement, which was for three years only, of about Rupees 80,000. At the close of the last year, Sumbut 1922, the balance of land revenue remaining unpaid, and which is spread over a period of six years, was Rupees 22,060-4-3, of which Rupees 18,411-10-3 is due from khalsa villages, and Rupees 3,648-10 from those set apart for the Maharanee's

expenditure. All this is recoverable balance, and a good portion of it will be paid in the present year. A Return, sent with my letter, No. 66-21P., dated 6th ultimo, shows the amount due in each pergunnah, and the cause of non-payment.

2. In addition to the actual land revenue, there is an annual income from all the pergunnahs, including Deorhee villages, of Rupees 1,54,840. This makes a total income from pergunnahs of a little more than 18 lakhs per annum. The sum representing the extra lakh and a half (in round numbers) includes items of various sorts, *viz.*, water rate where not included in the assessment, revenue of lands which have fallen in, or been confiscated since the settlement was made, Government share of villages granted in enam, &c., levied on cultivators, and the rest, taxes of various sorts levied on non-cultivators. These taxes were, when we first took over charge of the State, much more numerous, but many of them were struck off under the orders of the late Sir Henry Lawrence. The balance of six years due of these extra items was Rupees 47,134-10-4, of which Rupees 18,374-4-3 is due from Deorhee villages alone, and the remainder from khalsa villages. The large balance due on these extra items is owing to the same pains not being taken in its collection as in that of the actual land revenue. The Zemindars proceed to the tehseels themselves, and pay in their revenue on the dates fixed, whereas the extra items cannot be recovered until the accounts are made out by the Tehseeldars, and hence delay occurs. Individually I have a great objection to many of these extra taxes, and do not press for payment on the same.

3. I think the present assessment is a very equable one, and will bear increasing when the next settlement, which will, I hope, be for a period of 20 or 30 years, is made. The total area in beegas of khalsa lands is 20,37,494; of which 15,12,589 are cultivated, 2,49,817 culturable waste, 6,20,609 unculturable waste, this includes village sites, hills, &c., &c., and 2,54,467 maafee. The annual assessment on the khalsa lands is Rupees 15,32,379. This gives a rate of a little more than a rupee per beega on the cultivated land only, and on the cultivated and culturable land together of under 14 annas per beega. This, I think, shows that the assessment is not a heavy one, but if any other proof were required, it would be found in the cheerful way in which the kists are paid up, and the very small balances that exist at the close of each year. The amount of land brought under cultivation has increased much since the present settlement was made, and is increasing yearly; and a sure sign of the prosperity of the people is that formerly, when we first took over charge of the Bhurtpore State, it was difficult to get Zemindars to point out their lands, and men would deny that they possessed a beega of land in the village for fear of being held responsible for payment of a higher rate of settlement than the land could bear, whilst now a man will fight for the twentieth part of a beega. Innumerable cases of this kind are daily brought forward in the Revenue Office, and the petitions for the division of lands increase daily. Any one coming from other parts of Rajpootana and passing through Bhurtpore cannot, I think, help being struck with the different aspect of the country; almost every available piece of land is brought under cultivation, and the fields at nearly every season of the year have a busy appearance, contrasting strongly with the uncultivated and bare aspect exhibited in other States, where the "ijaradar" system exists, and

where the Zemindars will only cultivate as much land as will supply them with food, the rate on cultivated land being fixed so high that no profit can accrue to them.

4. One of my principal objects ever since I have been at Bhurtpore has been to give every assistance to the people to enable them to construct wells in their lands. From the Sumbut year 1919, or A. D. 1862-63, the sum of Rupees 1,14,079-8 has been advanced for the construction of wells. This money is lent to the Zemindar without interest, and he pays back by instalments on each kist. Out of the amount thus advanced in a period of five years Rupees 81,784-10-6 has been recovered, leaving a balance due which is being gradually recovered by the usual instalments of Rupees 32,294-13-6. The number of wells completed in these five years, or rather in somewhat less time (for the fifth year is not yet half over), is 949, and the number under construction 242, making a total of 1,191; of these 182 have been constructed by the Zemindars without assistance; for the remainder 1,009 advances, as above, have been made. Many of these wells are what is called "charlawa," that is, wells that can be worked by four different sets of bullocks at a time. It is calculated that a well worked by one pair of bullocks irrigates from 20 to 25 beegas of land. Putting the advantage gained by these wells at the very lowest rate, and calculating only that each well waters but 20 beegas of land, this alone will give a return of 23,820 beegas of land. The difference between the value of "baranee" and "chahee" land, that is, land watered by the rainfall only, and land irrigated from wells in this State, is at the lowest two rupees a beega, and this will give a return of profit to the State on 23,820 beegas of Rupees 47,640, so that the advantage to be gained by encouraging the construction of wells cannot be too highly thought of.

5. In Lieutenant Home's Report the subject of "bunds" is fully entered into under the head of "agricultural," and would not seem to call for any more particular notice from myself. The number of bunds throughout the district at present existing—small and large—is 116. The water rate charged in Bhurtpore is one rupee per beega; in some pergunnahs the water rate was included in the last revenue settlement, in others it was not so included. It is calculated that, exclusive of those pergunnahs which pay the water rate with their revenue, 49,932 beegas of land in other pergunnahs receive irrigation from bunds. This gives an increase of Rupees 49,932 exclusive of the land revenue assessed in the last settlement.

6. The revenue department of the State is conducted by Mr. Thomas Heatherley, Deputy Collector. He hears cases of every kind belonging to the department of which he has charge, and passes final orders on all, an appeal lying from his decisions to myself. Mr. Heatherley is a very efficient officer, and conducts the duties of his office entirely to my satisfaction. He was originally employed in the Durbar at the instigation of the late Sir Henry Lawrence as a Tehseeldar. After serving some years in that capacity he resigned in order to take charge of the small State of Khetree in the Jeypore territory, the owner of which was then a minor. When the ruler obtained his majority Mr. Thomas Heatherley obtained service in Ulwur in the same position as he now holds here, and subsequently I was fortunate enough to get him back to Bhurtpore, and for the last four years he has held the post of head of the Revenue Department on a salary of Rupees 400

per month. The work got through by this Office in the Sumbut year 1922 is as follows :—

Number of cases pending at the close of Sumbut 1921	788
Cases instituted during Sumbut 1922	6,053
Making a total of cases	6,941
Of which were settled	5,858
Leaving the balance of cases pending	983

The number of cases pending settlement at the close of the year may seem large, but taking into consideration the number of cases instituted, I do not think that more work could have been done in a satisfactory manner, for many of these cases take up a long time in enquiry, particularly when claims are made for land, which entail investigations into papers of long standing. Only 18 of these cases were appealed to me, of which I confirmed 10 and reversed 3, 5 remained pending in my Court at the close of the Sumbut year.

7. The income for the establishment of the Deorhee was originally derived from 69 villages, the annual revenue of which, according to the last settlement, was Rupees 1,18,697. These villages were scattered over the whole of the Bhurtpore territory, and were managed by the Moonsurrim of the Deorhee acting in the capacity of a Tehseeldar; but as he resides at Bhurtpore, and some of the villages were situated in the pergunnahs most remote from the capital, the amount of supervision that he could exercise was but small, and many difficulties were constantly arising. Formerly, another item of the income belonged to the Deorhee. The salt revenue was divided into two departments, one of which was under the management of the Moonsurrim of the Deorhee, and the other under that of the Tehseeldar of salt. But Major Morrison put the salt department under one head, and the revenue was all paid into the Government Treasury. The income derived from the land revenue of the villages belonging to the Deorhee was found not to be sufficient for the expenditure, and constant advances had to be made to the Deorhee from the State Treasury. This system did not work well, for with an uncertain income, trusting to the State to make good all extra expenditure, the financial condition of the Deorhee was not properly attended to. I therefore resolved, after consultation with the Council of Regency, to amalgamate all the villages belonging to the Deorhee into the pergunnahs within the borders of which they were situated, and give in lieu of the same the pergunnah of Bhurtpore, the income of which will fully compensate the Deorhee for the villages that have been taken from it, and obviate the necessity that used to exist of assisting that department with funds from the State Treasury. This matter was fully reported to you in my letter, No. 150-21P., dated the 6th of August last, and the plan met with your concurrence.

8. The Moonsurrim of the Deorhee has the same power as the Tehseeldars of other pergunnahs. But as the Deorhee has always been considered a separate institution, objections were raised to appeals being heard from his decisions by the native Adawluttee, as the Moonsurrim was supposed to be acting under the direct orders of the Maharanee. Appeals are therefore made in the first instance to myself, and are generally forwarded by me for an expression of opinion to the Council of Regency, who return the cases to me for final orders. This plan answers all purposes, and prevents any plea of interference with her rights on the part of the Maharanee herself.

Chapter II.

Statistics of Protection.

B.

Judicial, Civil and Criminal Courts.

Since the death of the late Maharajah Bulwunt Singh the administration has been carried on by a Political Agent, assisted by a Council of Regency. Major (now Lieutenant-Colonel) Robert Morrison was the first Political Agent. His administration lasted until 1857, and that of Captain (now Major) Nixon until May 1859, when, on his nomination to Jodhpore, Major Bouverie was appointed Political Agent. On the 16th March 1861 Major Bouverie proceeded on medical certificate to England, and ever since that date I have held the appointment. Up to the date of Major Bouverie's departure the administration of the country was principally conducted by the Political Agent. A Council of Regency did exist, but they had no actual power, and as a rule only decided such cases as were sent to them by the Political Agent. But on a report being made on the subject by General (now Sir George) Lawrence, then Agent, Governor General, for Rajpootana, the Government disapproved of the Political Agent taking such an active part in the administration of affairs, and a Council of Regency, consisting of seven members, was appointed, and their duties duly defined.

2. The Council of Regency have a general control over all departments of the State. They hear the daily reports of the army, the workshops, commissariat department, &c. All applications for leave, promotion, or preferment go to them. All cases in which native customs or any point of caste or religion is involved are taken up and decided by the Council; but no recommendation for expenditure of money can be carried out until such has received the sanction of the Political Agent. In the same way no new appointment can be made in any department of the State, nor any promotion take place in the army or any other department without the previous sanction of the Political Agent.

3. The Council, in addition to their other duties, hear cases in appeal from both the native Adawluttees or Magistrates, an appeal lying from them to the Political Agent.

4. The Report called for from your Office is for 1865-66, or from the 1st May 1865 to 30th April 1866. All accounts and all statements of every kind at Bhurtpore are kept according to the Sumbut year. It would have taken a long time to compile all the statements required for this Report according to our own reckoning. I have therefore been compelled to confine myself to the Sumbut year 1922, which commenced on the 6th September 1865 and ended on the 24th September 1866.

5. I will now proceed to give a Return of the work done by the Council of Regency during the Sumbut year 1922.

At the close of the Sumbut year 1921 the total number of cases pending in their Court was	239
Number of cases instituted during 1922	5,576
Making the total of cases	5,815
Of these the number disposed of was	5,666
Leaving the total number of cases pending at the close of the Sumbut year 1922	149
Of the total number of cases, *viz.*, 5,815, there were civil cases appealed from the Courts of the two Native Magistrates ...	154
Of these the cases settled numbered	141
And the number pending settlement	13
Again, there were criminal cases appealed from the Courts of the two Native Magistrates	80
Of which were settled	70
And remained unsettled at the close of the year	10

6. There are two Magistrates, one for Bhurtpore, to which are attached eight pergunnahs, and one for Mewat, the tract of country bordering on Goorgaon and Ulwur (so called from the majority of the inhabitants being Mevs, who from being originally Hindoos were converted to Mahomedanism in the time of the Emperor Aurungzebe). The latter official is called the Adawluttee of Deeg, and has under him the pergunnahs of Deeg, Kaman, Gopalgurh, Paharee, and Nugger. The powers exercised by these two officials are precisely the same. In criminal cases they can imprison for three years with hard labour in irons, and can fine up to Rupees 50. In civil cases there is no limit; they are empowered to enquire into and decide all such cases instituted in their Courts. An appeal lies from their decision to the Council of Regency, but in criminal cases, should they desire to pass a more severe sentence than three years' imprisonment, or to fine beyond Rupees 50, the case must be sent to the Political Agent.

7. Subordinate to the Magistrate of Bhurtpore are—

The Magistrate of the city of Bhurtpore, Foujdar Gungabux, who hears civil cases for the city of Bhurtpore itself, and has the same power as a Tehseeldar, *viz.*, of hearing and deciding all civil suits in which the amount is under Rupees 500.

The Kotwal of Bhurtpore.—This official has the same powers as Tehseeldars in the city of Bhurtpore itself in criminal cases only.

The Tehseeldars of Kombhere, Akheygurh, Bhusawur, Weir, Biana, Ochein and Roopbass.—These officials hear and decide all civil suits that may be instituted in their Courts of less value than Rupees 500, an appeal lying from their decision to the Adawluttee. In criminal cases they have the power to imprison for three months with labour in irons, and can fine up to Rupees 10, an appeal lying, as in civil suits, to the Adawluttee.

The work done by all these officials for the Sumbut year 1922 is as follows:—

The number of criminal cases remaining unsettled at the close of 1921 in the Court of Deewan Lulta Pershad was	36
The number of cases instituted during the year 1922, and this includes cases sent up for final orders by subordinate officers and appeals made from the decision of those officials was ...	1,695
Making a total of cases	1,731
Of these the number disposed of was	1,718
Leaving the number pending settlement at the close of the Sumbut year 1922	13

Of the 1,695 cases instituted during the year, 495 were sent up for final orders by Tehseeldars and the Kotwal of Bhurtpore, and the remainder were instituted in the Court of the Adawluttee himself.

8. The work done by the eight officials subordinate to the Adawluttee of Bhurtpore for 1922 is as follows:—

Cases pending settlement at the end of 1921 ...	41	
Do. instituted during the year 1922	2,352	
Making a total of		2,393
Of these the number of cases settled by the subordinate officers themselves was	1,864	
Sent for final orders to the Adawluttee	495	
Making a total of cases disposed of		2,359
And leaving the number pending settlement ...		34

Of the 1,864 cases settled by subordinate officials, 41 cases were appealed to the Adawluttee.

9. In civil cases the work done by the Bhurtpore officials of the first division has been as follows:—

The balance of cases pending settlement in the Court of Deewan Lulta Pershad at the end of the Sumbut year 1921 was	14	
Instituted during the year	73	
Appeals from subordinate Courts	167	
		254
Of these decrees were given in	22	
Cases dismissed	224	
		246
Leaving the number of cases pending settlement to be		8
The number of cases pending in the subordinate Courts at the end of 1921 was		52
Instituted during 1922		1,476
Making a total of		1,528
Of these the number of cases settled was		1,487
Leaving the number of cases unsettled		41
Of the 1,487 cases settled, decrees were given in ...		1,114
The number of cases dismissed was		350
And the number non-suited		23

10. The second division has, as before mentioned, Foujdar Buldeo Singh as its head, and to him are subordinate the Kotwal of Deeg, who has the same powers in criminal cases as Tehseeldars, and the Tehseeldars of Deeg, Kaman, Paharee, Gopalgurh, and Nugger, whose powers are the same as those exercised by Tehseeldars of the first division.

11. The work done by the Adawluttee of Deeg is as follows for the Sumbut year 1922:—

Of criminal cases remaining unsettled at the close of the Sumbut year 1921 there were		2
Instituted during the year, this includes cases sent up for final orders by the Tehseeldars and appeals made from the decision of these officials to the Adawluttee		2,074
Making a total of		2,076
All these cases were settled:		
Of civil cases there were pending settlement at the close of the year 1921	11	
Instituted during the year, and this includes appeals from subordinate officers	399	
Making a total of		410
Of these decrees were given in	397	
Number of cases dismissed	9	
Number non-suited	1	
Or, total number of cases disposed of		407
Leaving the number of cases remaining unsettled at the close of the year 1922 in the Court of the Adawluttee		3
12. The number of civil cases pending in the various Courts subordinate to the Adawluttee of Deeg at the close of the Sumbut year 1921 was ...	24	
Instituted during the year 1922	455	
Making the total of cases to be		479
Of these the number of cases in which decrees were given was	434	
Number dismissed	21	
Number non-suited	11	
Making the total number of cases disposed of ...		466
And leaving the number of pending to be		13

Of the cases disposed of only 13 were appealed to the Adawluttee, who confirmed one case, reversed two, and modified ten.

13. The reason of there being more criminal cases in the district under the Adawluttee of Deeg than in that under the Adawluttee of Bhurtpore, is owing to Mewat being under the former officer. The Mevs are a very predatory race of men, and cases of cattle-lifting are

very common amongst them. If I had time to make an analysis of the criminal cases settled by the Adawluttee of Deeg, it is probable that I should find that the greater number were cases of cattle-lifting and petty theft. The class of men inhabiting the pergunnahs under the Adawluttee of Bhurtpore are, with the exception of the Goojurs of the Dang, well-to-do landholders and cultivators, amongst whom crime is rare. The cause of the difference of the number of civil cases instituted in and decided by the two Adawluttees is owing to the fact of there being a separate Court in the city of Bhurtpore for the trial of civil cases only.

The number of cases instituted in this Court during the Sumbut year 1922 was 676. So that the civil work of the Adawluttee of Bhurtpore is of course much lightened.

14. The Tehseeldars of both divisions are well paid, getting Rupees 300, 250, 225, 125, and 100 a month each. Thanadars get Rupees 30, 35, and 45 a month each.

15. The work done by the officials subordinate to both Magistrates, as well as that done by themselves, must be put down as very satisfactory. In future Reports I shall hope to give detailed statements showing the number of heinous crimes, the amount of property stolen, the number of persons implicated, the number punished, and the number released. But as this Report has been called for suddenly, and the time in which it has to be prepared is limited, I am unable to give more particulars than I have already done.

C. Prisons.

There is one large central jail at Bhurtpore. This was built some years ago, and is situated on the Jeypore road about four miles distant from Bhurtpore. This jail is built on the radiating principle, and has accommodation for about 300 prisoners. The usual number of prisoners is about 200; they are principally employed in working in the jail, making paper and ropes; the women grind all the atta consumed in the jail. The situation of the jail is very healthy; the dry earth system was introduced in it by Dr. Mott, and has been continued ever since. The medical officer in charge of the Agency has charge of the jail, and receives for that duty the sum of Rupees 50 per month. The number of prisoners in the jail at the close of the Sumbut year 1922 were 182; of these the number of Hindoos was 148, and Mahomedans 34. Of the total number of prisoners 13 only are women, of whom 12 are Hindoos, and only 1 Mahomedan. Of these 19 are life prisoners, of whom 4 are women; 7 to fourteen years, of whom only one is a woman; 3 to ten years, all men; 5 to seven years, all men; 17 to five years, all men; 1 to four years; 19 to three years, of whom one is a woman; 28 to two years, all men; 3 to two and a half years, of whom one is a woman; 37 to one year, of whom two are women; 1 man to nine months; 19 to six months, of whom 3 are women; 23 to less than six months, of whom one is a woman; total 182 prisoners.

2. There is also a jail in the fort at Bhurtpore. This is used for prisoners under trial in the Court of the Adawluttee of Bhurtpore and for any gang of prisoners who may be employed on out-door work.

3. Each head-quarters of a pergunnah has its havalat or lock-up, but Tehseeldars are not permitted to keep prisoners in these lock-ups for

a longer period than one month. If their term of imprisonment extend over that time, they must be sent to the central jail at Bhurtpore.

4. In the fort at Deeg there is also a very good jail capable of holding about 40 prisoners. Persons sentenced to less than six months' imprisonment by the Magistrate of Deeg undergo their punishment in this jail, but if condemned to a more lengthened term of imprisonment, they must be sent to the central jail at Bhurtpore. The prisoners in the Deeg jail are chiefly employed on out-door work.

D.
Police.

The number of police employed in the Bhurtpore territory is as follows:—For the protection of the city of Bhurtpore itself a force of 29 officers and 273 chowkeedars is employed. The whole of these men are paid by the State; the chowkeedars receive Rupees 4 a month each, and the officers are paid in proportion. A sum of 4 annas per month is deducted from the pay of each chowkeedar, and this amount goes to a fund from which compensation is made in case of robberies in the city, where no trace of the stolen property is found.

2. In the seven other pergunnahs composing the first division of Bhurtpore the police number 890 of all ranks. The chowkeedars employed in the head-quarters of each pergunnah town only are paid by the Durbar, and the rate of pay is different in almost each pergunnah. In some of the pergunnah towns the chowkeedars hold lands rent-free in addition to their pay, and receive fees in grain, &c., from the town people, whilst in others they receive pay from the Durbar only. The chowkeedars of the head-quarters of the seven pergunnahs number 114, and their monthly pay amounts to Rupees 386. The number of chowkeedars employed in the villages of these seven pergunnahs is 776. These men receive no pay from the Durbar, but they hold lands rent-free, and receive perquisites from the Zemindars, who consider them as their servants as well as those of the State.

3. In the five pergunnahs composing the second division of Bhurtpore there is a total force of 615 chowkeedars. Of these 158 compose the police of the head-quarters of the pergunnahs, and receive per mensem Rupees 453 from the Durbar in the same way as in the pergunnahs of the first division. The pay is different in each; in some chowkeedars receive Durbar pay only, whilst in others they hold lands rent-free, and have perquisites besides. The village chowkeedars in these five pergunnahs number 457; they receive no pay from the Durbar, but hold lands rent-free, and get perquisites from the Zemindars. These chowkeedars are held responsible, as is the custom in Native States, for all robberies that take place in their beats, and should the stolen property be not forthcoming, or the thieves not caught, they have to compensate the people from whom the property is stolen.

4. The strength of the police, as above mentioned, does not however include the tehseel sepoys who number in the 13 pergunnahs of both divisions of Bhurtpore 1,998 men, who receive a monthly salary of Rupees 6,275. In July 1861 the subject of tehseel police was taken up, and fully reported on by me in my letter marginally noted. The number of men then in employ was 2,191. The new arrangement was that the permanent establishment of tehseel police should be 100 sepoys and 2

No. 102 of 1861, dated 8th July 1861.

jemadars for each lakh of rupees of revenue, the sepoys drawing Rupees 3-8 per mensem each, and the jemadars Rupees 7 and Rupees 5. All the new incumbents that had been employed under the mookhtiarship of Dhao Golab Singh in the year 1857 were not to be interfered with during their lifetime, but on a vacancy occurring amongst any of them it was not to be filled up. The present settlement being now a little above 15½ lakhs, not including the Deorhee, the number of sepoys according to the new arrangement ought to be with jemadars 1,856. When my Report was written in 1861 the number in excess was 691; it is now 410, so that it will be yet some time before the force is reduced to its proper number. These sepoys are employed under the orders of the Tehseeldar of each pergunnah to which they are attached, and perform police duties as well as those which attach only to the revenue department of the State.

5. In addition to chowkeedars and tehseel sepoys a force of 1,162 men—artillery, cavalry, and infantry—are always on duty in the different pergunnahs. Of these 471 belong to the regular regiments of infantry and artillery, 172 to the Baeesee regiment, and 519 to the different cavalry regiments. And of these 519 a total of 269 are employed in escorting the mails through the Bhurtpore State.

E. Military.

The present strength of the Bhurtpore military establishment consists of 7,560 men of all arms, artillery, cavalry, and infantry. This number includes camp followers, classies, water-carriers, sweepers, and others, who number about 850. The artillery strength is 250, the infantry 5,677, and the cavalry 1,633. There are six regular regiments of infantry, whose present strength is 2,411 men including camp followers. Two of these regiments, *viz.*, the Maharaj and Bishumber Pultuns, were raised during the mutiny. All these six regiments have, to a certain extent, a system of drill and measure of organization. They are armed with the old flint muskets, and each regiment has a few drill instructors, who are mostly old pensioned soldiers of our own native army. Of the 2,411, 1,770 are Hindoos and 641 Mahomedans. Of the former Jats muster 513, Goojurs 312, Rajpoots 127, Brahmins 468, Bunyas 44, Chumars 39, and the rest are composed in small numbers of men of twenty-six different castes of Hindoos. Each of these regiments is commanded by a Sirdar of the Raj, and the appointment is looked upon as conveying a certain amount of rank and position with it. The other regiments of infantry are 12 in number, and have a total of 3,266 men. Of these the Ghoorchurras or the Maharajah's body-guard muster 656, of whom 618 are Hindoos and 38 Mahomedans. With the exception of the two Baeesees, so called from their having been originally composed of 22 divisions, which muster in the one 1,095, and in the other 823, of whom 1,413 are Hindoos and the rest Mahomedans, and who are principally employed on police duties, the rest of the men composing the infantry are divided into 9 regiments containing 150 men each. Of these 2 regiments the cheeraposh and orderlies are attached to the person of the Maharajah himself, and the remainder have the charge of guarding the fort and town gates, and are employed on no other duties.

2. The cavalry, as above stated, are in number 1,633, and are divided into 13 different regiments. The first of these is called the

Ungrezee Ressalah, and was made over by the British Government to the Bhurtpore State some time, I believe, after the second siege. The present strength of this regiment is 294 men, of whom 59 only are Hindoos and the rest Mahomedans. They are well horsed, and still have some little discipline. This regiment did not behave well during the mutinies, and I think it would have been as well if the Durbar could have then got rid of its services altogether. Both men and officers are highly paid, the men receiving Rupees 25 a month, and the officers being paid in proportion. The rest of the cavalry are divided into 12 different regiments, and number 1,036 Hindoos and 303 Mahomedans. The Khass Goule, mustering 152 men, of whom only 12 are Mahomedans, are the mounted body-guard of the Maharajah. Some of these regiments are better mounted than others, but all have a Chunda fund for the purchase of horses. A certain deduction is monthly made from the pay of all ranks, and each man receives towards the purchase of his horse Rupees 100, 115, or 120 according to the strength of the regiment to which he belongs. Of the 1,095 Hindoos composing the cavalry regiments 557 are Jats, 88 Goojurs, 154 Rajpoots, 232 Brahmins, whilst the remainder 64 represent twenty-two other castes of Hindoos. With the exception of the first named Ungrezee Ressalah none of these regiments know much of either drill or discipline. They are chiefly employed in the districts as police, and a great number of them are told off for the special protection of the dâk runners, each mail from Agra to Jeypore being escorted through the Bhurtpore territory by four mounted sowars.

3. The artillery muster 250 men, of whom 160 men are Mahomedans and only 89 Hindoos. These men can serve the guns pretty well, but know nothing of drill or discipline. The guns are 38 in number, of which 17 are mounted on the walls of the fort. These guns are all of the oldest fashion, and do very well for the purpose of saluting, but as weapons of warfare I should not think they would prove very serviceable. The annual expenditure on account of the pay of the army ranges from Rupees 6,53,000 to Rupees 6,75,000.

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Chapter III.

Statistics of Production and Distribution.

A. Finance.

The financial condition of the Bhurtpore State may be considered as satisfactory. A Return is enclosed showing the income and expenditure from Sumbut 1917 or 1860-61 (I received charge of this Office from Major Bouverie on the 16th March 1861) to Sumbut 1922 or 1865-66. The total amount of receipts in these six years has been Rupees 1,55,49,261-3-9, whilst the expenditure for the same period has been Rupees 1,48,26,217-8-5, leaving a balance of saving for six years of Rupees 7,23,043-11-4. The principal items of income of the Bhurtpore State are the land revenue, customs duties, and salt.

Customs Duties.

A new arrangement for the collection of this item of revenue was made in the year 1858, and many articles that had been hitherto taxed were struck off, and a more equitable rate levied upon all articles taxed.

2. The income of the Bhurtpore customs has steadily increased since the new system has been introduced, the opening out of the country by so many new roads has given a great stimulus to trade, and as a natural consequence has added to the income of the customs. I herewith give the traffic for 1922, the total amount of goods of every kind on which duty was levied was 20,07,479 mds. 29 s. 7 cks., and the amount of duty levied on the same Rupees 2,46, 537-4.

3. The detail of the whole is as follows:—

	Mds.	*S.*	*C.*			*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Goods imported into Bhurtpore...	5,36,148	19	0	—Duty levied	thereon ...	71,000	0	0
Do. exported from do. ...	3,01,235	32	0	Do.	do. ...	32,370	0	0
Rahdaree or goods entering and passing through the Bhurtpore territory	4,01,396	19	0	Do.	do. ...	84,403	0	0
Internal trade of the Bhurtpore territory alone	7,68,699	0	0	Do.	do. ...	58,763	4	0

4. Of the total amount of duty levied Rupees 11,651 comes under the head of "Nukhas," or duty levied upon animals bought and sold within the limits of the Bhurtpore territory. When this amount is deducted from the sum total, and the whole amount of duty levied is spread over the total of goods taxed, the amount will be found to be some few fractions over one anna and ten pies per maund, which cannot, I think, be considered very heavy.

Salt.

5. Salt is another great item in the revenue of the Bhurtpore State. The total amount of salt sold in these six years is in maunds 83,28,056-32, or in tons 2,97,430. The amount of revenue accruing to the Bhurtpore State for salt alone (an income which is produced in two ways, the first being that the State take a share in kind of the whole amount of salt produced, and the second being the tax levied on salt sold) for the past six Sumbut years has been Rupees 17,69,001-1-6. The greater part of the salt

produced in Bhurtpore goes into British territory. The total amount of salt sold in Sumbut 1922 was in maunds 14,89,385. The duty now levied on salt imported into British territory is Rupees 3 per maund. Supposing that only fourteen lakhs of maunds of salt found its way into British territory, even then the income accruing to the Imperial Exchequer is 42 lakhs of Rupees. At the close of the Sumbut year 1922 the amount of salt stored and unsold in Bhurtpore was upwards of 15½ lakhs of maunds, representing an income to the Imperial Exchequer, if only a market could be found for it, of 47½ lakhs of Rupees, or close on half a million of money.

6. I do not think there is any other item of revenue in the Bhurtpore State so large as to call for any particular remark from me. I shall now therefore turn to the disbursements.

Disbursements.

7. The total expenditure for the past six years has been Rupees 1,48,26,217-8-5. This amount, spread over a period of six years, gives an annual expenditure, not including that of the "Deorhee," of a little more than 23½ lakhs of Rupees. I do not think any system like that in vogue at Bhurtpore is common in any other State in Rajpootana. Every Sirdar or Native gentleman of the State is wholly dependent upon the Durbar for subsistence; each individual receives not only his clothes, but his daily food in kind from the State.

8. It only remains now for me to comment upon the increase and decrease during those years which the present Report embraces. In 1917 the amount of expenditure over the income was Rupees 64,161-9-3. This is owing to a falling off in the amount of income of both the salt revenue and the customs dues, and to an increase in the expenditure by one month's pay of the whole of the army, which, although paid monthly, was originally kept four months in arrears; the period has now been reduced to three months.

9. In Sumbut 1918 the amount of income over expenditure was Rupees 4,25,211-0-9, and there was an increase in income over the former year of Rupees 3,41,425-15-3. Of this increase nearly 2 lakhs is owing to the salt and customs dues, and the balance to other items; the decrease is owing to a less expenditure on the army, one month's less salary having been paid to them that year. There is also a considerable decrease in the expenditure under the head of "communications," which includes the keep of the whole of the "stables," with that of the breeding establishments of Kombhere and Biana—bullocks, elephants, and camels, commissariat, workshops, &c., &c. The greatest amount of increase of expenditure in Sumbut 1918 is in the "Deorhee," when Rupees 1,14,827-2 were paid to that department against Rupees 18,105-14-3 of the previous year. This sum is included under the head of "Civil List."

10. Sumbut 1919 shows an increase in income over the previous year of Rupees 51,372-5-6. The expenditure of Sumbut 1919 was Rupees 2,46,584-5-5 more than that of the previous year. This was owing to there being 13 months instead of 12 in this year, and in consequence an increase of one month's pay to all establishments over the previous year, and to the Maharajah's marriage, which alone caused an expenditure over the previous year of a lakh and nearly ten thousand Rupees.

11. The income of Sumbut 1920 was Rupees 86,426-4 less than that of Sumbut 1919. The expenditure was Rupees 20,09,888-2, or Rupees 2,46,878-12-11 less than the previous year. This is accounted for by no expenditure on account of the Maharajah's wedding, and to the pay of the establishments being less by one month than in the previous year.

12. Sumbut 1921 shows a decrease in income over the former year of Rupees 1,35,510-0-9. This is attributable to a falling off in the salt income of about Rupees 99,000 and to a decrease under the head of land revenue. The disbursements were Rupees 22,96,721-2-6 against Rupees 20,09,888-2, or an increase in expenditure of a little more than two and a half lakhs of Rupees over the previous year. In this year 1921 the Maharajah visited Hurdwar, and a large amount was expended then. A great deal of money was expended in purchases, and a great increase arose in the building establishment and public works department, which accounts for the amount of increase.

13. In Sumbut 1922 there was an increase in income over the previous year of Rupees 90,947-14-6, and an increase in expenditure over the same period of Rupees 3,76,530-6-9. This large amount is owing to a sum of Rupees 1,20,110-8-9 having been placed to the debit of Sumbut 1922 instead of that of the present year in which it should have been included, and this reduces the amount of actual expenditure over income to Rupees 2,56,419-14. This is accounted for by 1922 being a year of 13 months, which alone entails an increase of Rupees 91,830, or close upon a lakh. The Maharajah too visited Calcutta in that year, and the trip, including purchases made, &c., &c., cost Rupees 25,966-2. There was also a large increase in the Public Works Department and buildings, &c., &c.

14. In commenting upon the income and expenditure of each year I have not included the amount of receipts and disbursements on account of "tuccavee" or advances to Zemindars, loans, deposits, and "Deorhee" lands, which have, however, been included in the grand totals of each year, as exhibited in the Statement sent with this letter.

15. These items have always been kept distinct from the total amount of income and expenditure of the State, and hence in commenting upon the same for each year I have excluded these sums. But to prevent any misunderstanding I submit in the margin the income and expenditure of these items for each year.

	Receipts.			Disbursements.		
	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*s.*	*p.*
Sumbut 1917	2,34,541	3	3	2,24,247	1	0
„ 1918	2,56,924	11	3	2,14,308	8	3
„ 1919	2,64,073	10	6	2,35,074	6	0
„ 1920	2,55,967	8	3	2,60,548	9	3
„ 1921	2,27,391	7	9	2,68,050	10	6
„ 1922	2,73,286	1	6	2,19,047	11	0
Totals	15,12,184	10	6	14,21,276	14	0

16. The cash balance at the close of the Sumbut year 1922 was Rupees 12,17,248-10; of which Rupees 9,01,299-8-6 were in the head-quarters treasury, and the balance in the different pergunnahs, salt and customs establishments.

I think this large balance cannot but be considered most satisfactory. A large extra expenditure has certainly taken place, but it must be borne in mind that no excess in the actual routine expenditure of the Raj has occurred except in the Department, Public Works, and that I consider as money well laid out.

B.
Public Works.

Under this head I cannot do better than let Lieutenant Home, Executive Engineer, Agra and Bhurtpore Irrigation Works, speak for himself. His Report is therefore entered in this place. Lieutenant Home has now been employed in Bhurtpore since the beginning of 1864, and I consider that the Bhurtpore Durbar have been most fortunate in securing the services of so efficient an officer. He has mentioned in detail all the works constructed, under construction, and proposed since he has had charge of the Bhurtpore Irrigation Works, and no one but those who knew the country as it was before his arrival can properly appreciate the great advantages that have accrued and will accrue hereafter from the projects that he has set on foot. I think that few Native States have such facilities within their own borders for the improvement of the people and enrichment of the country. It has ample means for irrigation, having no less than four rivers running through different portions of the territory during the rainy season. But these rivers in the hands of the people of the country, who are, as a rule, ignorant of all knowledge of engineering principles, are apt to do great injury, as they have done of late years in this State. But the whole system of drainage and irrigation throughout each portion of Bhurtpore has been taken up, investigated and revised by Lieutenant Home. And when all the works now on hand and proposed are completed, I think I am not wrong in stating that Bhurtpore will be one of the most prosperous States in Rajpootana.

2. In addition to the charge of the Bhurtpore works, Lieutenant Home is also Superintendent of the Agra Irrigation Works, and the labour that devolves upon him is most heavy. He has only one Native assistant, Pundit Shimboonath, who was in the employ of the Durbar before the arrival of the Executive Engineer. I had formed a very high opinion of him, and I am glad to see that Lieutenant Home also speaks in a most favourable manner of his worth. In addition to the duties that devolve upon the Executive Engineer, which includes works in progress in almost every pergunnah, Lieutenant Home has most kindly undertaken the charge of superintending the improvements going on in the city of Bhurtpore and at Deeg, besides the construction of a new school and many other works which he might quite fairly decline to burthen himself with. He is always most willing to give me his advice and assistance in every matter that concerns the benefit of the State as far as his department is concerned, and I would desire to bring his services most prominently to your notice, and trust that you will make the same known to the Supreme Government. Lieutenant Home is now an Executive Engineer of the 4th grade, his pay in this grade is Rupees 300 per month staff, which is paid by the Durbar. He draws from Government the pay of his rank as Lieutenant, Rupees 265-12, making his total pay per month Rupees 565-12. In addition, Lieutenant Home draws a travelling allowance of Rupees 5 per diem when out in the district. When employed in the Bhurtpore State this allowance is paid by the Durbar, when in Agra by the Government, North-Western Provinces. In the year 1857, at the request of the late Sir Henry Lawrence, Lieutenant (now Major) Glover, of the Royal Engineers, was appointed to the executive charge of Bhurtpore, and received a salary of Rupees 600 per month, with travelling allowance at the rate of Rupees 5 per diem. The charge held by Lieutenant Glover was much less than

that Lieutenant Home now has; the duties of the former were confined to Bhurtpore alone, whilst those of the latter include the extensive irrigation works in the Futtehpore Sicri, district of Agra. Lieutenant Home's present charge is also far larger than that held by any Executive Engineer of the grade in which he now is, *viz.*, the 4th. The difference of pay between the 3rd and 4th grade of Executive Engineers is Rupees 100 per mensem, of which the Durbar would willingly pay half. I think Lieutenant Home is fairly entitled to a step in promotion, as he is, I consider, at present underpaid for the work he has to perform; and I shall deem it a favour if you will bring the subject to the notice of the Government of India for favourable consideration and orders.

Transcript of Lieutenant Home's Report.

Lieutenant Home's Report.

2nd.—The following are the heads in use in the Public Works Department:—

I.—Military works.
II.—Civil buildings.
III.—Agricultural.
IV.—Communications.
V.—Public improvement.

And omitting I., under which no works have been constructed under my supervision, I will commence with.

II.—Civil Buildings.

3. *Pergunnah Bhurtpore.*—A bungalow has been built for the Executive Engineer at a cost of Rupees 5,000.

A bungalow has also been constructed for the Medical Officer at the same cost.

The old dâk bungalow has long been a source of complaint to travellers, the rooms being low and badly ventilated, and the walls (of sun-dried bricks) honeycombed by white ants. The former superstructure has been removed and the plan of the rooms remodelled, so as to keep the accommodation for ladies quite separate. It is now being rebuilt with pucca bricks and a flat roof, and will, it is hoped, be completed before the hot weather sets in.

New School-house.—The want of more accommodation for the scholars has long been acknowledged, and the commencement of the work has only been delayed by the difficulty of obtaining a suitable site. The open space of ground close to the present school-house has now been fixed upon, and the foundations excavated. The new building will be double-storied with eight rooms, 28′ × 28′ on each story, and a 10′ verandah round three sides.

Sowars' Chowkies.—Seven of these have been built on the following roads, *viz.*—Agra Road, 1 at Bechaondee; Muttra Road, 2 at Jugeena and Rarah; Deeg Road, 1 at Baraee; Jeypore Road, 3 at Sewur, Bansee, and Derajat.

Gaokhana.—The carts and bullocks belonging to the Raj used formerly to be kept in an enclosure, surrounded with mud huts and thatched sheds. A fine quadrangle has now been laid out on the same site, surrounded with a range of stalls of pucca masonry, roofed with stone slabs; on the side facing the Futtehpore Sicri Road a row of

shops has been erected on either side of the entrance gateway; when completed, the interior of the quadrangle will be levelled off and drained. This work is now nearly finished, and will probably be roofed in before the rains.

Engine House.—This building was erected in 1865-66 to receive a portable ten horse power steam-engine, and consists of engine room, shafting and machinery room, woodstore room, and godowns for storing raw materials. The following machinery is worked by it, *viz.*, 3 corn-mills, 2 cotton gins, and a chaffcutter. The fuel used is babool wood, of which there is a plentiful supply in the preserve called the "ghunna."

4. *Pergunnah Kombhere—Sowars' Chowkies.*—Two of these have been built on the Deeg Road at Kombhere and Saint.

5. *Pergunnah Deeg—Sowars' Chowkies.*—Two of these have been built, *viz.*, Bhurtpore Road, 1 at Deeg; Goberdhun Road, I at Bheij.

Deeg Palaces.—The fame of the palaces at Deeg is so widely spread that it is needless for me to expatiate on their beauty, but a short description of their position is necessary in order to show what work has been done on them. They consist of a quadrangle, the centre of which is a garden laid out with fountains. To the east is a large masonry tank, to the south are old palaces, the fountain reservoir, and the marble palace, to the north a large building called the Nund Bhowan, and to the west the Gopal Bhowan, the rear face of which looks out on a large kucha tank. It was probably intended originally to line this tank with masonry, as foundations have been discovered on the north side, but for some reason it had never been done. Its sides were very rugged and cut up, and the tank altogether must have been rather an eyesore. Just before my arrival, however, the west bank opposite to the Gopal Bhowan was sloped off and turfed, and a new garden planned to fill up the bare space beyond it. The garden has now been completed, and an ornamental bridge built over a gap at the end of the west bank, which now makes an excellent cattle ghaut. Advantage has now been taken of the old foundations to build a fine bathing ghaut, the remainder of the north bank being turfed; the south bank has been sloped off and turfed, and an ornamental wall carried round the top of all three banks. Attached to the ornamental wall is a masonry channel by means of which the grass is watered without any trouble. The whole tank now presents a very handsome appearance, and sets off the west view of the Gopal Bhowan immensely.

The Nund Bhowan (mentioned above) has a very fine centre room measuring 66' by 40', which was formerly roofed with sal beams 1·75 by 1·5, the lower sides of these beams were carved, and the interstices between the beams were filled in with sal planks carved in the same manner, the whole forming a handsome wooden ceiling. On the top of these beams were brick pillars 2·5 feet high, and these being connected with stone slabs supported an ordinary terraced roof. This structure was of course excessively weighty, and for some years before my arrival it had been noticed that the roof had sunk considerably in the centre, and that several of the beams were considerably decayed. Finding it impossible to procure timber of the requisite length, I ordered seven wrought-iron girders from the Roorkee workshops. These have arrived, and are now in position on the roof, the tie-rods only

remaining to be fixed. They will be connected with brick arches on which the ordinary flat roof will be laid. The carved ceiling consisting of 3 inches sal plank will be attached to the lower flanges of the girders, and the appearance of the room will remain unchanged, while the roof will be indestructible.

The old palaces mentioned as being situated on the south side of the quadrangle have been gradually falling into decay for want of repairs. They consist of two large squares surrounded with two-storied buildings, and were formerly used as female apartments. The outside walls are bulged in several places, some of the roofs have fallen in, and the rest are all in a more or less precarious condition. Work has now been commenced upon them, and it is hoped that in a short time the most dangerous parts will be secured, when the buildings will only require the usual repairs to enable them to stand for many a long year.

A metalled road is now in course of construction round the palaces, with a row of trees on either side, which, when completed, will add greatly to the appearance and convenience of the place.

6. *Pergunnah Weir.*—The summer palace at Weir with its gardens has for some time past been in bad repair; the rear wall of one of the flank buildings was in a very dangerous condition, and threatened the safety of the neighbouring houses. The wall has now been strengthened with buttresses, and other necessary repairs are in course of execution. The garden, a very fine one, has also been cleared up, the wells and water-courses repaired, and the necessary staff of gardeners appointed.

7. *Pergunnah Roopbass.*—The only work executed in this pergunnah has been repairs of the tank wall and of the outside wall of the palace.

III.—Agricultural.

8. There are no perennial rivers in the Bhurtpore territory, and consequently no irrigation from canals. The flood water of rains and streams is however held up by embankments all over the district, and released at the time of sowing. It is in fact a system, not of irrigation, but of saturation.

The four principal rivers are the Roopareil, the Ootungun or Bangunga, the Gumbheer, and the Kakund, and I propose first to describe the works connected with these rivers, and then to group the remainder under their several pergunnahs.

9. The Roopareil rises in the Ulwur territory, and enters the Bhurtpore district near the village of Seecree in pergunnah Gopalgurh. Immediately on entering the district it is held up by an embankment called the Seecree bund, which curves round in a southerly direction. Its length is about 8 miles, and it contains 21 masonry outlets, which in heavy floods are calculated to discharge 15,650 cubic feet per second. The embankment has a fair cross-section, but the soil at the north side is sandy, and towards the south, where the soil is good, the bund is wanting in height. The outlets are of rude construction and deficient in appliances for regulating, their floorings are also in many cases too low. It must be understood that the Seecree bund is not intended to store up water but merely to hold it up, so that it may be distributed through

the numerous masonry outlets. The water on leaving the bund is divided into two parts, one flowing north-east towards Gopalgurh, Paharee, Kandla, and Kaman; and the other south-east, towards Deeg, Kombhere, and Bhurtpore. Of these two lines the north-east terminates in the Kaman valley, from which there is no exit, so that in years of heavy floods the water accumulates, and the whole country is inundated from Paharee to Kaman, a distance of 11 miles. When the water has risen very high in the Kaman valley it escapes into the Muttra district, and damages the crops there. The south-east line has a good slope as far as the Khoh Jheel near Deeg, after which it passes through a succession of Jheels to the Moteejheel bund at Bhurtpore, and so into the Orin Nuddee. The Orin is a tributary of the Kharee Nuddee, and the Kharee falls into the Ootungun River in the Agra district. In years of moderate flood the existing arrangement works fairly, and no great damage is done. But the distribution of the outlets is radically wrong. Thus two-thirds of the flood escape to the north-east, where there is no outlet for them, and a comparatively small area of ground to be flooded, while only one-third passes off towards the south-east, where there is a long line of country to be saturated. And the Orin Nuddee acts as an escape for any superfluous water. The only remedy for this is to construct escapes in the south end of the Seecree bund, sufficiently large to carry off the whole of the flood down the south-east line. To improve the regulating apparatus of the existing outlets, and thus to obtain complete control over the flood waters, the bund will also have to be strengthened and raised in parts.

At about 9 miles down the south-east line the escape water passes between two hills at Kukra, and is held up by an earthen embankment called the Kukra bund. This bund is weak, has not sufficient outlets, and bursts nearly every year. It is proposed to strengthen the lowest point with a masonry wall, to increase the section of the embankment, to face the front slope with stone, and to construct on its right flank an escape weir capable of discharging 12,000 cubic feet per second.

From Kukra the water flows over the country to the Khodher, where it collects and forms an extensive swamp, which is only culturable during very dry years. From Khodher to Moteejheel, a distance of 25 miles, there is no proper drainage, as the country has a very small slope. A drainage cut has been laid out, and in part excavated from the lowest point of the Khodher to the lowest point of the Moteejheel, passing through and draining the intervening low grounds. The width of this cut is 20 feet at bottom, and masonry drains will be constructed in it at convenient sites, so as to be held up and utilize the water in the several jheels. There are two bunds in this section, *viz.*, the Goberdhun Gate bund at Deeg and the Moteejheel bund at Bhurtpore. The Goberdhun Gate bund is also the road from Deeg to Goberdhun, and is in good order. It used formerly to hold up water as far as the city walls, and the Delhi Gate had always to be closed during the rains. Advantage has now been taken of the earth excavated from the cut to form an embankment, which keeps the water at some distance from the city walls. The Moteejheel bund is a very old work, and in former days was always kept full for the purpose of flooding the country round Bhurtpore in case of attack. This embankment is in good order, but in emptying the bund at the end of the rainy season the water

floods a great deal of land near the city, which adds to the unhealthiness of the place. A cut with bottom width of 30 feet is now being excavated from the lowest point of the Motteejheel to join in with the Orin Nuddee, and the earth is being thrown up on the right bank, so at to form an embankment and keep the water away from the city. This, with bridges where necessary, completes the project from the south-east line. The detailed estimates and drawings are in course of preparation.

The levels for the north-east line have not yet been completed, but the works on this side will be very light in comparison with those on the south-east line.

10. The Ootungun or Bangunga, rising in the Jeypore territory, enters the Bhurtpore district near the village of Kumalpore in pergunnah Bhosawur, and flows in a westerly direction. Excepting during the rainy season, its bed is generally quite dry, its banks are low, and its flood waters are heavily laden with sand, in consequence of which it does great damage by overflowing its banks during high floods. Its only tributary is the Gumbheer, which joins it near the village of Koorka, in pergunnah Ochein. The principal work connected with the Ootungun is the Ajain bund. This embankment is about 9 miles long, and stretches in a north-westerly direction, its north-west end being about 4 miles to the south-west of Bhurtpore. It has 14 masonry outlets, 7 of which discharge water in the direction of Bhurtpore. The water from these outlets flows through the "ghunna" to a large natural hollow close to, and to the south-west of, the city. At the end of the rainy season the surface water is drained off by two channels, both of which lead to the Orin Nuddee; the one passes through the city, and supplies the moat of the citadel, and the other runs outside the city walls and fills several tanks on the Agra road.

A good deal of water, however, remains after these channels have ceased to act, and it is feared that this must always be the case, as the ground is lower than the surrounding country. The embankment has lately been repaired, and is now in good order. This bund formerly extended about three miles further to the south, and was fed by cuts from the Ootungun. One of these cuts was excavated from Koorka just below the junction of the Gumbheer, and having been dug to a great depth the river took to it and breached the bund towards its south end. No steps having been taken to turn the river back into its proper course, the head of its old channel has gradually silted up, and the whole of the floods now pass down the new channel, causing great damage both in the Bhurtpore and Agra districts. An attempt was made in 1865 to turn the river back by means of a pile and brushwood spur, but without success. Operations have now been commenced by which it is hoped to turn the Gumbheer into the old course of the Ootungun, and should they prove successful the difficulty of turning the Ootungun away from its present channel will be materially lessened. The bund is now fed by a cut taken out of the left bank of the new channel, and has hitherto acted fairly. It is necessary, however, to examine it carefully before the commencement of the rains, and to throw out spurs, if the river shows too great an inclination towards the mouth of the cut. There are two other bunds which receive water from the Ootungun, *viz.*, the Lalpore

bund in pergunnah Weir and the Koondera bund in pergunnah Ochein, but they neither of them call for any particular remarks. No bunds receive water from the Gumbheer.

11. The Kakund River is a tributary of the Gumbheer. It rises in the hills of the Kerrowlie territory, and enters the Bhurtpore district on the southern border of pergunnah Biana. Its course for several miles is over an elevated rocky plateau, from which it descends by a series of falls near the village of Goordha.

The next six miles of its course lie through a large basin surrounded with hills, the drainage of which it receives through numerous nullahs. At Bareta it clears the hills, and flowing in a northerly direction joins the Gumbheer. The basin above mentioned lies nearly north and south, its length being about six miles and greatest breadth about five miles, narrowing to about two-thirds of a mile at its south end. It is intersected with nullahs and ravines, which are fringed with a belt of thick jungle. The soil varies from light and sandy near the hills to sand mixed with clay and kunkur in centre of the basin, but none of it is stiff enough to withstand the continuous action of water. The villages are small, and the cultivation is mostly confined to patches of land which yield but a poor crop. There is a great want of water, especially in the months of May and June, when the cultivators are put to great straits for drinking water for their cattle, and in some places even for themselves. The inhabitants are very poor, and having no employment are often induced to take part in thieving expeditions. The idea of throwing an embankment across the Kakund near Bareta so as to hold up water over the land of the basin has been brought forward several times, and no doubt has ever been entertained of the advantages which would be gained by its construction. Up to this time, however, no detailed survey of the ground or estimate of the probable cost of the bund had been made. In December 1865 I took levels up the beds of the Kakund and its various tributaries, and on two lines, which seemed favourable to the construction of the bund. I also inspected the whole of the basin, and fixed on a line at the point where it is narrowest near the villages of Bareta and Sookaseeta. This line seemed to me the best for the following reasons :—

1*st*.—It is the shortest, being only 3,720 feet.

2*nd*.—The soil is stiffer than in other parts.

3*rd*.—Although the ground is slightly lower than that of another line that I measured, still it has the advantages of crossing the Kakund below its junction with a large nullah, the passage of which would have necessitated as heavy work as that of the Kakund itself.

The top of the bund will be 61 feet above the bed of the Kakund at point of crossing, and the high water mark will be 5 feet below the crest. The bund will be composed mostly of earth. The top width is to be one-third of height, but nowhere less than 10 feet. The base of the front slope is to be two and a half times, and that of the rear slope twice the height; the front slope is to be covered with a stone pavement 2 feet thick and extending up to 3 feet above high water mark. A masonry wall, with a top width of 1½ feet and side slopes of 1 in 12, will extend along the whole length of the bund, and will be so placed that its top will join on to the stone pavement of the front

slope. The object of this wall is to prevent any extensive leakage, and to keep animals from burrowing holes through the bund.

The bed of the Kakund will be closed up, and outlets will be constructed on either flank of the bund, that on the left flank consisting of 4 openings 8′×5′ will have its flooring 12 feet above the level of the river (up to which height silt will be allowed to fill up), and that on the right flank having 13 openings 8′×5′, and its flooring 15 feet below high water mark.

The openings will be regulated by means of iron shutters worked with windlasses and chains. The former is to be used for emptying the bund, and the latter is calculated to discharge 8,500 cubic feet per second, the maximum flood of the Kakund; the water from the former will pass into the Kakund itself, and that from the latter into a large ravine which joins the Kakund about a mile further down. It is calculated that 9,000 Bhurtpore beegahs (1,600 to the square mile) will be brought under cultivation hy this bund; but it will be necessary to hold up the water continually for the first three years, so that the inequalities of the ground may be levelled by the action of wind and water. During these years the edges only would be brought under cultivation; after three years the return on the 9,000 will certainly not be less than Rupees 15,000 per annum (a great portion of the land being at present unculturable jungle), and, deducting Rupees 2,000 for annual repairs, the net revenue will be Rupees 13,000, or nearly 10 per cent. on the estimated cost of Rupees 1,31,000. Work has now been commenced, and the foundations of a portion of the wall laid; there is a good body of workmen collected, and the work was proceding briskly when I last inspected it.

12. The remaining irrigation works consist of the following embankments scattered about the district, *viz.*—

Pergunnah Deeg.—7 bunds, *viz.*, at Nigollee, Dubhara, Saharee, Sheesbumwalla, Ruchawtie, Peesopa, and Morar.

A new bund is in course of construction at Ghata on the road between Deeg and Kaman.

Pergunnah Kaman.—5 bunds, *viz.*, at Nundhera, Chuchurwaree, Bolkhora, Kalata, and Rosaka. Of these the Kalata bund stops up the gap through which the water of the north-east line of the Roopareil enters the Kaman village.

Pergunnah Paharee Randla.—3 bunds, *viz.*, at Beisera, Putralie, and Allumpore.

These bunds are all fed by the north-east line of the Roopareil. The northern portion of this pergunnah is also occasionally flooded by water from the Goorgaon district, but levels are about to be taken for a drainage cut to pass off this water into the main line, and to prevent its stagnating in hollows.

Pergunnah Gopalgurh.—Besides the Seecree bund already mentioned there are the following embankments, which depend upon it for water, *viz.*, on the north-east line Ramp, Dabuk, Gungwaree, and Gopalgurh; on the south-east line Emlaree, Koorkaiee, and Biyaree.

Pergunnah Bhosawur.—7 bunds, *viz.*, at Rundheerpore, Gurha, Booraj, Kusba Bhoosawur, Atareepora, Diapore, and Nyagaon.

These are all old bunds, with the exception of the last mentioned, one of which was constructed during the past year 1866. A new outlet has also been added to the Kusba Bhosawur bund. The whole of these bunds are fed by local drainage from the adjoining hills.

Pergunnah Weir.—22 bunds, *viz.*, at Jugjeewunpore, Bondagaon, Kota Puttee, Bichpooree Puttee, Bujera. Jeitpoora, Lohasa, Rajgurh, Soonsa, Ajround, Lalchund, Moharee, Mookrowlie, Raipore, Seetagaon, Poorya Puttee, Moroda, Bhuggora, Oomraind, Lalpore, and Jewud. Of these the first 20 are supplied by local drainage from the adjoining hills. The Lalpore, as mentioned in paragraph 10, is fed by a cut from the Ootungun, and the Jewud bund by the surplus water of the Lalpore. The only new works that have been constructed are a masonry weir for the purpose of supplying the Seetagaon bund, a masonry wall to regulate the supply of the Bondagaon and Moharee bunds, and a new outlet in the Lalpore bund to increase the supply of the Jewud bund.

Pergunnah Biana.—8 bunds, *viz.*, at Bheemnugger, Moorkee Kullan, Moorkee Khoord, Koonawur, Bhuggoree, Kandera, Khutnaolee, and Jissoura. Of these the first five are old. The Kandera bund was completed shortly after my arrival, and consists of a masonry dam thrown across the nullah, which supplies it, the right flank of the dam resting on a rock, and the other carried well into the opposite bank, the soil of which is very light. An escape channel was also projected to carry off surplus floods. Unfortunately this channel was not completed by the commencement of the rains, and a heavy flood cut away the left bank, damaging the masonry work considerably. Steps are now being taken to restore the masonry and to secure the whole work, as the neighbouring villages are dependent on its maintenance for a supply of water in their wells.

The Khutnaolee bund was formerly of very small dimensions, whilst the nullah that supplies it drains a large area of country. It has now been considerably lengthened and strengthened, and supplied with efficient outlets for irrigation and escape. The front slope has also been faced with stone, where the bank is weakest. It is now in good order, and irrigates a large area both within and without the bund.

The Jissoura bund is situated at the southern extremity of the pergunnah, close to the border of the Agra district, and when completed will hold up the water of the neighbouring hills; it will have a very beneficial effect, as the greater part of the land which will come under its influence is uncultivated. It has been delayed by the difficulty in obtaining labour, but will probably be completed before the commencement of the rains.

Ochein and Roodawul Pergunnah.—5 bunds, *viz.*, Koondera, Chowraree, Goojurbalaie, Khera, and Domrea. Of these the Koondera bund, as mentioned in paragraph 10, is supplied from the Ootungun, and its surplus water feeds the Chowraree. The remainder are filled from local drainage.

Pergunnah Roopbass.—The bunds of this pergunnah are supplied partly from the old course of the Ootungun through a gap in the hills at Bokoulee, and partly from the drainage of the surrounding hills. The water from the first source, after supplying several bunds, is held up close to the river at Meirtha by a masonry dam with outlets discharging into the river. The ground at the left flank of this dam was

cut away by a heavy flood in 1865, but has now been repaired by adding to the length of the flank-wall. All the bunds in this pergunnah are kept in repairs by the Zemindars of the villages whose lands they benefit, "tuccavee" advances being made to them for the purpose.

It will probably be necessary to construct a regulator for the Bokoulee gap through which the floods now flow unrestrained, for although no great damage has been done hitherto, yet the diversion of the Gumbheer will add greatly to the volume of the river at that point, and in the case of the North-West Provinces Government wishing to fill the Futtehpore Sicri reservoir from the same source, a fair division of the supply would be an absolute necessity.

IV.—Communications.

13. The following are the lengths of the metalled roads in the Bhurtpore districts, *viz.*—

	M.	*F.*
From Bhurtpore towards Agra	10	6
„ „ Futtehpore Sicri... ...	8	0
„ „ Jeypore	20	1
„ „ Deeg	21	0
„ „ Muttra	8	5
From Deeg towards Muttra	5	0
Circular road round Bhurtpore	5	0
Roads in and about Bhurtpore	4	0
Total ...	82	4

In addition to which there are the following roads which are raised, but not metalled, *viz.*—

From Bhurtpore to Biana	22 miles.
Continuation of road from Agra to Futtepore Sicri leading to Biana, Hindoun, and Jeypore	30 „
Total ...	52 miles.

The Jeypore road was formerly only constructed as far as Huleyna, a distance of 20 miles, the portion between Huleyna and the Jeypore border, a distance of 12 miles, being a mere cart track. It has now been prolonged to the border to meet the road from Jeypore. At about 2 miles from Huleyna the Ootungun River is met with; it was at first proposed to construct a bridge across it, and the site had been selected by Captain Pollard, R. E., but the idea was given up on account of the projected railway from Delhi to Ahmedabad.

The whole of the earthwork has been thrown up, and two culverts built; 3 miles of the road are metalled, and ready for traffic, and half of the metal collected for the remaining portion. Materials for the remaining culverts and metalling are being collected, and the road will probably be completed by the end of the rains.

On the Hindoun and Biana road a bridge over the Kakund Nuddee, 6 spans of 20 feet, had been commenced before my arrival, and is now complete. With this exception the two metalled roads are only provided with culverts, the larger nullahs and rivers remaining unbridged. The great amount of salt traffic, and the scarcity and inferior quality

of the kunkur, add greatly to the difficulty of keeping the metalled roads in repair. With the exception, however, of a small portion of the road from Bhurtpore to Huleyna, all the roads are now in good condition.

Trees have also been planted on either sides of all the roads, and an establishment is kept up to water and look after them.

V.—Public Improvements.

14. *Bhurtpore.*—Work has been commenced on paving some of the principal side streets of Bhurtpore with stone quarried from the Madhoni hill; where wide enough side drains are provided, but where drains were found to interfere with traffic the paving has been raised in the centre, and a small wall built on either side to prevent the water from injuring the mud walls of the houses. At present four streets are being treated in this manner, and levels are about to be commenced, so that the paving and drainage may proceed side by side. The drainage of the city, always an important matter, has become doubly so now that the paving has been commenced, for the water, which used formerly to soak into the ground and turn all the side streets into quagmires, will now run off down the paved streets, and be carried off outside the city.

The ground on two sides of the Gunga Munder square has been levelled off and metalled; side drains have also been provided. A clock tower has been built in the centre of one side of the square, and is ready to receive the clock, which has been ordered from Calcutta. The dial has a diameter of 3 feet, and the whole of the building has been faced with yellow sandstone to match the remainder of the square.

From the Muttra Gate to the circular road a new bazar has been laid out, and is now nearly completed. The shops are all faced with yellow sandstone, and present a very handsome appearance. As a great portion of the city traffic passes through the Muttra Gate it has been considered advisable to pave the road through the new bazar on the same pattern as the main street leading through the city. About two-thirds of this work has been completed. The drinking water of Bhurtpore is of the worst description, being excessively salt; the few sweet wells are situated on the edges of tanks in which water is retained during the greater portion of the year. With a view to improving the quality of the water, tanks have, at various times, been excavated, but there has always been a difficulty in filling them, as the channel from the Utulbund (*vide* paragraph 10) does not work until the water has risen to a considerable height. The consequence of this is, that in dry years the tanks do not get any water at all. In order to secure the supply of these tanks a channel has been excavated from the lowest point of the Ajain bund. This channel has a 3 feet bed, and is about 5 miles long; it is carried across the low ground in the "ghunna," and catching a portion of its drainage water enters Bhurtpore near the Political Agent's bungalow.

One of the largest tanks is situated on the Agra road, and is called the Kuddum Khundee; it has not been cleared out for many years, and has become very shallow; excavation has been commenced on it, and it will now be squared off and deepened so as to hold a good supply of water. There is another site near the cavalry lines on the Futtehpore Sicri road, which might advantageously be cleared out and made into a tank. Earth is being excavated from it to fill in the quadrangle of the Goakhana, and when this has been done a very small outlay will suffice to complete the tank. I consider that the excavation and supply of

these tanks is well worthy of notice, as the health of the city depends greatly on the quality of its drinking water.

15. *Kombhere.*—The water at Kombhere is, if anything, worse than that of Bhurtpore. The inhabitants are dependent on two tanks for drinking water for themselves and their cattle; one of these is situated under the Julmahal near the Bhurtpore gate, and the other close to the Deeg gate; they are both supplied by drainage water from outside the city. The Julmahal tank has long been neglected, and has become very shallow; its supply channel and the culvert under the city wall have also become choked up. The tank is being deepened and squared off, and the channel and culvert will be cleared out. The other tank has also been deepened down to spring water level.

16. *Deeg.*—On the Bhurtpore road a row of seventeen shops has been constructed between the palace gate and the fort. The ditch of the fort opposite to the shops, which was very ragged, has been sloped off and turfed, and an ornamental wall with circular enclosures for trees has been carried round the top of it. A portion of the road leading to the Kaman gate, which used formerly to be under water during the rains, is being raised, and culverts constructed to pass the water under it.

17. This completes my Report of the works carried on under my superintendence during the past three years; having been called on for it during the working season of the year, I have not had leisure to make it as exhaustive as I could wish, so I trust that you will excuse any shortcomings. It now only remains to bring to your notice the help that I have received from my Assistant, Pundit Shimboonath; and I am glad to have this opportunity of reporting that both in his work and conduct he has given me entire satisfaction.

F. Mines.

There are no mines at present worked in Bhurtpore. There are, however, some copper mines in the range of hills between Bhusawur and Weir, and also in the Biana Pergunnah. They were worked in former years, but were found not to pay, and in consequence were given up.

Quarries.

There are extensive stone quarries in the pergunnah of Roopbass, at a place called Bansee Paharpore, and there are also quarries in the Biana Pergunnah. The stone produced at the former place is a white and red sandstone of the most durable quality, and yet very malleable. These quarries must have been in use for ages past, for the beautiful buildings at Futtehpore Sicri are chiefly built of this stone, and all the palaces in Bhurtpore, Deeg, and Weir are constructed of the same material. The fame of this stone is well known; it has been used largely in the construction of the railway bridge at Delhi, and all the telegraph posts now in use on the railway are taken from stone quarried at Bansee Paharpore. The total amount of stone carted from Bansee Paharpore during the Sumbut year 1922 was 1,36,920 maunds, and the total of revenue accruing to the Bhurtpore State from duty levied on the same was Rupees 6,846-15.

G. Manufactures.

I do not think that I can say anything upon this head, for beyond the work done by a few weavers I do not think there is anything that can rightly take the name of manufacture in the Bhurtpore State.

H. Trade.

Trade has increased a good deal in Bhurtpore during the past five years, but there is nothing like such an extensive trade as there ought to be in

such a large city. This is mainly owing to the treatment that traders received during the lifetime of the late Maharajah. Taxation was so heavy upon all articles of merchandize that trade was quite paralyzed. It is very difficult to restore confidence to traders when once it has been shaken. But I think that in a few years the trade of the place will be found to have increased to a very large extent. It is already largely on the increase, and has been ever since the new customs duties were introduced. The articles of trade are chiefly salt, cotton, and grain.

I. Coinage and Currency.

There is a mint at Bhurtpore, but it has not been much used of late years. In the Sumbut year 1922 only Rupees 2,709 were coined altogether. The Government rupee is current throughout the Bhurtpore territory. The value of the Bhurtpore rupee varies from that of the Government rupee, sometimes one, sometimes the other being uppermost in value according to the bazar rate.

K. Charitable institutions, Hospitals, and dispensaries.

The number of dispensaries now existing in the Bhurtpore State is nine, and besides these there is a large hospital at Bhurtpore itself and another at the jail. All these institutions are supervised by Assistant Surgeon Harvey, M. B., officiating in medical charge of the Bhurtpore Agency. The total number of patients treated during the Sumbut year 1922 was 92,285, and the total expenditure Rupees 9,495-12-6. This amount is not, I think, large; it gives a little less than one anna and eight pie per head. The great benefit derived by the people generally from these institutions cannot be overrated.

Vaccination.

The total number of persons vaccinated in 1865-66 was 13,287; of these the successful cases were 9,540, the unsuccessful 2,117, and the doubtful 1,636. Vaccination is now carried on in every pergunnah of the Bhurtpore principality under the superintendence of the officer in medical charge of this Agency. The Native doctors attached to dispensaries carry on the good work during the cold season, and at places where there are no dispensaries vaccinators are despatched from the Sudder station. The Assistant Surgeon in charge of the Agency is constantly marching about through the districts in the cold weather, and personally superintends the work. The people seeing the same thing going on year by year, and finding that no disaster befals to children who have been vaccinated, but, on the contrary, that they are kept free from small-pox, are beginning to lose somewhat of their dread of having their children vaccinated. Indeed, some have gone so far as to bring them to the doctor, and as years go on I have no doubt but that the prejudice will gradually die away. Surgeon Mott, the permanent medical incumbent of Bhurtpore, took a very great interest in all the duties of his office, and was most untiring in his efforts to carry on vaccination, and to make the dispensaries and hospitals a blessing to the people, and I am glad to say that his *locum tenens*, Dr. Harvey, carries on these good works with the same kindness of heart and earnestness of purpose. Out of the 13 pergunnahs which comprise the Bhurtpore State there are only four without dispensaries, *viz.*, Bhusawur, Ochein, Kombhere, and Nugger. I hope in the course of a short time we shall be able to have one at the first and last named places. At Ochein and Kombhere they are not so much required, as both are within a reasonable distance of the Sudder station of Bhurtpore.

Chapter IV.

Statistics of Instruction.

B. Education.

When I last reported on this subject in 1863 the total number of schools was 20, *viz.*, the Bhurtpore College, 12 Tehseelee schools, and 6 Hulkabundee or village schools, with a total attendance in all of 935 boys. There are now 68 schools in all (4 more Hulkabundee schools have been set on foot since the Return was made out), with a total number of pupils amounting to 2,146. The number of boys studying in the Bhurtpore College is about the same as when I last worte, *viz.*, 291. That there has been no increase to this number is mainly attributable to the want of room in the College as it now exists, but I am glad to say that a new building is in course of erection by Lieutenant Home close to the old one, and when it is completed we shall be able, I hope, to receive about 500 boys, and I have no doubt that the number attending the school will increase immediately the accommodation is ready. The educational staff of the Bhurtpore College consists of sixteen teachers, six of whom give instruction in Hindee, one in Sanscrit, five in Persian, and four in English. Their salary per mensem is Rupees 302.

Bhurtpore College.

2. We have now 13 Tehseelee schools against 12 in 1863, with a total number of 801 pupils against 499. The increase in numbers has been general throughout all the schools, but in some there is a more marked increase than in others. For instance, Weir in 1863 had 28 pupils, the number now attending is 73, and when I examined the boys the other day a request was made for more space, which will be given, and I have no doubt but that the numbers will continue to increase. In Bhusawur in 1863 there were 74 boys, there are now 120. At Deeg there were 82, there are now 113. In my next Report I shall hope to be able to mention a great increase in the numbers of pupils to this school. The present building is a long way from the city, but I have now made over for the school a large building capable of containing about 200 in the middle of the city. The total cost of the Tehseelee schools is Rupees 234 per mensem.

Tehseelee Schools.

3. There are now 53 Hulkabundee or purely village schools against 6 in 1863, with an attendance of 1,046 boys against 162 in 1863. There is usually only one Hindee teacher in each school, who receives a salary of Rupees 5 a month. In a few there are both a Hindee and a Persian teacher, when the monthly salary is Rupees 10. This is paid by the State, but the inhabitants of the village give the school-room and a place for the teacher to live in, with carpeting, &c., for the boys to sit on, and a box for the books to be kept in. The education imparted is of course a very simple one, the boys are taught to read and write fluently in Hindee and to make up accounts. This may not be considered much, but it is the beginning of education amongst the lower classes. We must hope that the boys now learning the little they do, will in after life appreciate the advantage of that little, and strive to obtain for their children after

Hulkabundee Schools.

them a greater meed of learning. In some, indeed now in most of the Tehseelee schools, the boys bring forward at the time of examination, which is always held during my cold weather tour, maps traced out by themselves. And in these schools, besides learning both Hindee and Persain, they are taught, as many at least as wish to learn, the duties of Putwarees and other matters which may tend to make them useful in their several spheres in after life.

4. The total monthly expenditure on behalf of education is Rupees 874, or per year Rupees 10,488; of this amount a sum of about Rupees 6,187 is raised by a cess of 6 annas in the rupee on the land revenue, the balance is paid by the Durbar. When the present settlement falls in, which it does in 1869, and a new one for a term of years is made, I think this cess may be raised to the same amount as it is in our own provinces, *viz.*, one rupee per cent. This would give an income of between Rupees 16,000 and Rupees 17,000 annually; and as the number of schools, particularly Hulkabundee schools, is increasing monthly, in a few years, I fancy, an income of that amount will be required to carry out the system of education which is now progressing so favourably.

5. The Superintendent of all the schools is Sub-Assistant Surgeon Bholanath Doss, and to his able management and desire to promote the good work is mainly attributable the success that has been attained. Many of the books for the village schools are compiled by the Sub-Assistant Surgeon himself, and printed at a press of which he has the charge. He has brought out many works, and has some others, which will be most useful at present under compilation. I hope his services in the cause of promoting vernacular education in the Bhurtpore territory may meet with the approval and commendation of yourself and the Government.

Female Schools.

6. There is one girls' school in the city of Bhurtpore itself, but I am sorry to say there are only 7 pupils in it. The teacher was brought up in one of the normal schools in our own provinces, and is a native of Bhurtpore. As it is only the beginning of female education in Bhurtpore, much progress of course cannot at once be looked for. In the course of time, I trust, we may be enabled to set more of these schools on foot, and that in future Reports I shall have the satisfaction of giving a more favourable account of the progress secured.

The paper on education brings my Report to a close. As it is the first of the kind that I have yet been called upon to submit, I trust I may be pardoned for all its shortcomings, which no one knows better than myself are many.

(Sd.) C. K. M. WALTER,
Political Agent.

Political Agency, Bhurtpore, the 7th June 1867.

RETURN showing the Receipts and Expenditure of the

RECEIPTS.

HEADS.	St. 1917.	St. 1918.	St. 1919.	St. 1920.	St. 1921.	St. 1922.
Land Revenue ...	16,99,882 3 0	17,41,778 10 9	19,70,432 5 9	18,50,304 13 0	18,04,132 8 6	18,26,442 13 9
Salt	2,66,558 1 3	3,75,222 2 6	3,05,944 2 6	3,34,757 15 0	2,35,690 0 3	2,50,828 12 0
Customs... ...	1,03,519 12 3	1,83,537 0 0	1,89,617 2 9	1,91,582 5 0	1,98,782 8 6	2,46,608 2 0
Administration and Public Departments ..	16,180 4 6	17,752 8 3	13,070 7 3	18,120 0 9	16,868 1 6	22,719 11 0
Public Works Department ...	4,012 12 9	3,065 13 9	2,582 14 3	1,917 4 3	3,179 11 6	3,838 13 6
Mint	3,814 15 3	1,441 8 9	3,064 11 9	3,232 15 9	3,778 13 0	3,251 0 6
Miscellaneous ...	.....	1,12,602 13 3	2,054 9 6	424 12 0	2,388 15 9	2,088 10 9
Total ...	20,93,968 1 0	24,35,394 0 3	24,86,766 5 9	24,00,340 1 9	22,64,930 1 0	23,55,777 15 6
Receipts of Deorhee Villages ...	1,23,101 10 0	1,23,469 14 3	1,26,125 8 0	1,28,197 2 6	1,19,168 15 9	1,27,174 14 9
Advances to cultivators	69,990 4 3	92,244 7 9	85,790 1 6	69,061 15 9	87,048 11 0	1,04,801 10 6
Loans	41,449 5 0	41,210 5 3	52,158 1 0	58,708 6 0	21,173 13 0	41,309 8 3
Grand total ...	23,28,509 4 3	26,92,318 11 6	27,50,840 0 3	26,56,307 10 0	24,92,221 8 9	26,29,064 1 0

POLITICAL AGENCY, BHURTPORE,
The 7th June 1867.

Bhurtpore State from Sumbut 1917 *to Sumbut* 1922 *inclusive.*

EXPENDITURE.

HEADS.	St. 1917.	St. 1918.	St. 1919.	St. 1920.	St. 1921.	St. 1922.
Land Revenue ...	1,79,694 1 3	1,76,747 10 6	1,84,567 1 6	1,73,569 0 9	1,75,194 7 0	1,88,712 1 0
Salt	15,363 4 0	12,194 8 3	17,465 2 3	14,265 11 3	16,691 9 3	14,902 9 3
Customs... ...	53,021 1 3	54,552 6 0	54,888 2 9	46,370 6 3	55,773 13 0	53,734 7 9
Administration and Public Departments ...	93,742 15 9	84,406 9 9	1,02,425 0 9	91,149 14 3	93,974 3 6	1,05,113 8 3
Public Works Department ...	83,438 10 6	51,472 9 3	53,530 15 0	37,254 11 3	71,161 8 3	1,42,788 6 0
Miscellaneous ...	34,557 3 0	72,146 13 9	2,17,924 4 0	64,974 5 3	1,04,722 0 0	1,82,152 7 6
Religious and Charitable Grants ...	1,17,334 6 6	84,147 13 9	86,313 14 9	84,136 11 0	95,076 2 9	1,00,907 4 3
Civil List ...	1,64,741 3 0	2,68,411 5 0	1,94,133 0 6	2,36,759 14 6	2,56,832 2 0	2,70,173 7 6
Army	8,04,740 12 3	7,01,017 1 3	7,67,226 7 6	6,99,549 7 0	7,52,118 12 3	8,24,921 12 6
Police	1,13,895 9 0	1,10,251 4 3	1,22,415 15 6	1,09,652 4 3	1,14,865 8 9	1,21,762 11 3
Pensions... ...	17,232 11 0	15,836 2 6	16,830 3 6	15,871 2 6	14,555. 5 6	16,016 7 9
Communications...	3,46,039 0 0	2,94,971 0 6	3,25,276 0 3	3,40,168 8 9	4,24,493 6 9	5,08,794 1 3
Education ...	6,169 3 3	6,690 1 6	8,550 12 3	8,989 14 0	10,534 13 0	11,817 11 6
Medical Services...	11,274 4 9	12,287 13 3	12,894 15 0	13,481 1 3	14,209 7 0	15,348 3 0
Buildings ...	90,384 2 9	54,204 7 0	74,905 0 6	58,242 4 6	81,294 11 0	97,730 15 3
Stationery ...	4,465 12 9	4,403 7 9	3,926 3 9	3,865 6 0	3,906 4 0	4,615 4 0
Foreign Services ..	7,224 5 9	6,351 7 3	13,493 8 0	11,587 7 3	11,317 0 6	13,867 14 0
Total ...	21,58,129 10 3	20,10,182 9 6	22,56,766 14 11	20,09,888 2 0	22,96,721 2 6	26,73,259 4 0
Expenditure on the Deorhee ...	1,23,101 10 0	1,23,469 14 3	1,26,125 8 0	1,28,197 2 6	1,19,168 15 9	1,27,174 14 9
Advances to cultivators ...	88,817 0 0	67,081 14 6	73,862 2 6	94,265 10 9	91,993 2 0	74,200 8 0
Loans	12,328 7 0	23,756 11 6	35,086 11 6	38,085 12 0	56,888 8 9	17,672 4 3
Grand total ...	23,82,376 11 3	22,24,491 11 9	24,91,841 4 11	22,70,436 11 3	25,64,771 13 0	28,92,306 15 0

(Sd.) C. K. M. WALTER,
Political Agnt.

HARAOTIE AGENCY REPORT.

CHAPTER I.

Introduction.

As directed in Circulars No. 1410 and No. 83, dated respectively the 3rd December 1866 and 22nd January last, from the Governor General's Agent in Rajpootana, I have the honor to report on the administration of the Haraotie States for the years 1865-66 and 1866-67; as also on the Meena Kherar, of which the Political Agent in Haraotie is *ex officio* Superintendent.

2. This being the first Report, it may not be deemed out of place to record such general information regarding the people of Haraotie and the country wherein they live as may be considered useful for future reference, and render this document a fitting introduction to those which are to follow.

EARLY HISTORY.

Haraotie.

Haraotie is said to have derived its name from the Hara tribe of the Chohan Rajpoots. After their settlement it was called "Hara Wutie," or the home of the Haras, and the term "Haraotie" is a corruption easily arrived at.

This etymology is doubted by some, but they are unable to offer any other explanation of its geographical appellation sufficiently convincing to induce the supersession of the version here given.

The Haras and their origin.

2. Ere detailing particulars in connection with this tribe, some mention of the Chohans, the parent stem which claims the Hara as an off-shoot, is called for.

3. The four principal families of Rajpoot who claim descent from the Chutries, and undoubtedly the foremost in reputation, are the Seesodyas, the Rahtores, the Kuchwahas, and the Chohans. The Maharana of Oodeypore (Meywar) represents the head of the Seesodya branch, the highest in rank from the antiquity of its power; the Rahtore family established themselves in Marwar (Jodhpore); and the Kuchwaha tribe in Ambher (Jeypore); whilst the Hara, a celebrated and numerous branch of the Chohans, settled in and became the Rulers of Haraotie.

4. The legend I am now about to relate briefly regarding the Chohans is taken from the records of their Charuns, a religious class common to Rajpootana generally. It is one of the chief duties of this order to study and quote authoritatively the annals of the State, or the genealogy of a family; and the following story told by them is implicitly believed, and handed down from father to son:—

It is said that the deity Birmajee, when performing a religious ceremony on Mount Aboo, was disturbed in his devotions by a demon who dwelt there; the god being enraged at the occurrence, created four Rajpoots to destroy the intruder, who, however, according to the sequel, must have escaped his doom. The descendants of the four

Rajpoots are called Puddeear, Solunkee, Chohan, and Pounwar. Chohan is also styled "Chobojah" (four-armed).

5. As recorded by Tod, Manika Rae, King of Ajmere, was the founder of the race. His son named Jot was slain in the capture of that ancient city. In remembrance of the boy's death the Chohans defied him, and "Jot Pootree" is still one of the most sacred of Chohan. Penates.

6. From this celebrated Rajpoot family sprang as many as 24 branches, of which the most distinguished branch is the Hara; but before describing it as a separate and distinct tribe, it behoves me to show upon what grounds the Hara claims descent from the Chohan. The following is their own version of the legend:—

7. Unnoo Raj (Chohan) was the Rajah of Hansi-Hissar, and his Queen, one Doodawuttee (Pounwar), after being 12 years with child, was delivered of an egg. The egg was buried under a dry mangoe tree, and the effect upon the withered stem was to cause it to flourish and become green. The Pundits on seeing this miracle caused the egg to be worshipped, and it had been some time in veneration, when Gaihrarum (the demon who had disturbed Birmajee at Mount Aboo) appeared with his legion in Golconda in the Dekhan, and fought a battle with the Chohan Prince of that place, where he vanquished the Rajpoot, and killed every Chohan save a girl by name Sooran, the daughter of one Bundheer (Chohan). Gaihrarum after this memorable event marched on Hansi-Hissar, and Unnoo Raj hearing of his approach became alarmed and prepared for flight, purposing, however, to take the sacred egg with him; with this view he placed it in his wife's palankeen, but its weight effectually prevented the bearers being able to lift it from the ground, when suddenly a voice was heard proceeding from the egg remonstrating against flight, and adding that its inmate would encounter the demon.

The Queen hearing this at once apprised her lord; at about midnight the egg burst, and a giant 21 feet high came forth and fought Gaihrarum. Both were slain in the conflict.

It so happened that at this time the girl Sooran, the sole Chohan survivor at Golconda, was seated under an Assapalla tree; the tree split asunder, and a goddess named Asseepooree appearing from the rent informed Sooran that the demon who had killed her father had been himself destroyed by a Chohan Rajpoot at Hansi-Hissar, and he bade the girl accompany her to the battle field. On arriving there the goddess gathered together the bones of the giant who had been born of the egg, and placing them in their proper places brought him to life again, calling him "Ust Pal Hada;" and he and his descendants were ever after called "Haras," a corruption from "Hada," a bone.

8. One of them by name Devajee was living when Jaina and Oosaira (Meenas) reigned at Boondee. He entered their service, and shortly afterwards, on the pretence of a wedding feast, invited the Meenas to his residence, treated them to spirituous drinks until they were fairly intoxicated, when he had them destroyed.

Davajee then ascended the guddee of Boondee, which thenceforward became the capital of Haraotie, the country of the Hara (Chohan) Rajpoots.

9. The valour of the Haras soon gained to them other territorial acquisitions, and after crossing the Chumbul, by conquest or grant, they extended their possessions to the confines of Malwa. Boondee was afterwards divided into two distinct Chiefships. Kotah became the portion of a younger son, and the transcendant ability of the Minister Zalim Singh rendered that principality in wealth and importance, the first perhaps, for the time, in Rajasthan. As a reward for his brilliant services, and in concurrence with his own natural desire to perpetuate his name, the Ministership of Kotah was made hereditary, and whilst the Maharao was titular sovereign of the country, his chief officer of State was *de facto* Ruler. With Zalim Singh the anomaly was not felt irksome, but it may readily be imagined that only consummate tact and ability could avert internecine troubles under such a state of things, and so it proved. Zalim Singh's son inherited his father's office, but not his father's talents: anarchy ensued; the British Government were compelled to mediate; and so inconvenient was the arrangement found to be, that to annul the transaction the Chief of Kotah eagerly consented to make over one-third of his territory rather than be for ever a cipher, and little better than a State prisoner in his own capital. This was effected, and Zalim Singh's grandson, the father of the present Maharaj Rana, became the Chief of Jhallawar, which from that day was considered a separate and third principality in Haraotie.

Personal appearance.

10. In personal appearance the Hara Rajpoot will be found to differ little from his brethren of other clans. A fair specimen may be described as above the middle height with graceful and well-proportioned limbs; his strength would appear wiry rather than the power of an athlete; he is upright, and has a commanding presence, which in others may be acquired, but in the Rajpoot would seem to belong to him intuitively. The face is well shaped, the nose and mouth finely cut, and the eye small and long, bright and clear, without impressing the observer as indicative of much intelligence. The Rajpoot, generally, wears an extensive moustache and whisker; the former carefully brushed up towards the eyes, giving him a somewhat fierce appearance and expression, whilst the whisker is allowed a luxuriant growth on chin and cheek, carefully parted in centre, and brushed to either side, the ends, except on occasions of etiquette, being wound round each ear, and the whole enveloped in a cloth passing under the chin and fastened at the crown of the head. This portion of his costume much resembles the face cloth used to support the fallen jaw of a corpse; it is a marked disrespect in most parts of Rajpootana to wear this cloth in the presence of a superior, and it is taken off for the moment, even when passing a superior in the open air.

Habits.

11. The Hara Rajpoot partakes freely of tobacco, spirituous drinks, and opium. He will take flesh of all kinds save that of the cow and buffalo. He eats twice during the day without difference in the preparation of the morning and evening meals. Thick and coarse flour cakes, all kinds of vegetables, milk and fish, are freely eaten.

Rajpoot women.

12. Rajpoot women are kept strictly "Purdah Nusheen;" they never appear in public, for a woman to expose her naked face is tantamount to a proclamation of her immorality, and as such is it regarded.

13. The Hara Rajpoot cannot marry into his own, but can marry into any other of the Rajpoot tribes. A very strict observance of this rule is enforced.

Marriage laws.

"Not only is intermarriage prohibited between families of the same clan, but between those of the same tribe, and though centuries may have intervened since their separation, and branches thus transplanted may have lost their original patronymic, they can never be re-grafted on the original stem. A marriage between any of the branches would be deemed incestuous, and every tribe has therefore to look abroad to a distinct race from its own for suitors for their females."

To the stringency of these laws has, in a great measure, been attributed the origin of female infanticide, a crime which has been spoken of in the Report on the Meena tribes herewith submitted, and once common in the Haraotie States.

A marriage is not considered effected until "Teeag" or the distribution of presents to Charuns and Bhats has been made; indeed, an alliance is demed a disgrace if this ceremony be omitted. At one time these demands were exorbitant, now they are fixed within reasonable limits.

The widow of a Rajpoot cannot marry again.

14. Based upon Hindee derivable from the Sanscrit in which the Brahminical writings are inscribed, nearly every State in Rajpootana proper has a peculiar dialect or patois of its own. The Hara would barely be understood out of Haraotie, or the Marwaree out of Marwar.

Language.

15. In connection with the religious observances of the Hara there is little to remark which is not equally applicable to all Hindoos.

Religion.

The custom of suttee has been practised in Haraotie as in every other part of Rajpootana.

16. The love of country, it is recorded, and the passion for possessing land are strong throughout Rajpootana; and Haraotie is famed for this *amor patriæ*, the Hara preferring existence in his own country to a life of luxury abroad.

Character.

It is almost superfluous to remark that the Hara resembles the Rajpoot generally in love for field sports, that spirit of energy which has won for him so honourable a reputation as a soldier here evinces itself, and he is keen after game of all kinds. It is to be regretted that a little of this energy is not evinced in matters of grave import to their real interests; but in such the majority are yet indolent and apathetically indifferent.

17. That they possess high courage history will amply testify, and were recent proof of their gallantry called for, events recorded within our own recollection substantiate the fact, that for upwards of half a century the best soldiers taken into our ranks were recruited largely from Rajpoot tribes.

18. In the days of Pindarree warfare, when the whole of this part of India was in a blaze, Rajpoot chivalry had ample opportunity, and

was well sustained; since then, however, his military prowess has seldom been called for, and in many instances, too ignorant to pursue other occupations, and in others too proud to exchange the sword for the plough-share, he has been content to live idly and unprofitably upon the exploits of the past.

19. Intellectually I should be inclined to place the Rajpoot below the average when compared with other races in Hindoostan. Almost entirely without education, and naturally but poorly gifted with powers of mind, the abilities with which he is endowed are too often dulled and deadened by debauchery and free indulgence in the use of opium, which both in its liquid and dry state he takes to an incredible extent.

So little indeed is ignorance considered a bar to high office that to my certain knowledge twelve months ago the Prime Ministership of Kotah was held by a man who could neither read nor write his own signature, and without one redeeming qualification, apparently, to account for his selection.

Chapter II.

Topography.

20. The province of Haraotie in Rajpootana, comprising the independent States of Boondee, Kotah, and a considerable portion of Jhallawar, lies on the north-east extremity of Malwa, separated therefrom by the Mokundurrah Hills, and the continuation of the Chittore range. It contains a population of 9,00,000 souls, and an area of nearly 10,000 square miles, yielding a gross revenue from all sources of about 45 lakhs of rupees, or £4,50,000 sterling.

21. Topographically it may be thus described: The surface of the country declines gently northward from the high table land of Malwa, and is drained by the waters of the Chumbul, which with its tributaries, the Kalee, Sind, the Ahoo, the Neemuj, the Parbutti, and some other streams of less magnitude, take a northerly or north-easterly direction on their way to the Jumna.

Rivers.

22. The Mokundurrah range of hills, rising to a moderate height, runs from south-east to north-west, and forms the southern boundary of Kotah, separating it from Jhallawar. The pass through these hills has been rendered memorable by the passage of Monson's army in its disastrous retreat, but irrespective of the historical interest which that event attaches to the place, the picturesque beauty of the valley lends to it, a charm peculiarly its own. Hemmed in by richly wooded hills, in many places ever shaded by the thick foliage so closely overhanging it, the defile winds through scenery almost grand. These hills contain game of all kinds, and the various little shooting boxes, built with some regard to taste, both as regards position and design, tend pleasingly to relieve the landscape.

Hills.

The Mokundurrah pass also deserves mention as being one of the principal outlets between southern and northern India. A compass survey of this important defile is marked A., and attached.

23. Running from north-east to south-west, with diverging ridges, and dividing the Boondee territory into two nearly equal portions of level expanse, is an extensive range of hills rising abruptly from the plain to an altitude of 500 feet through which the Lakheree Pass, near Indurgurh, is the outlet to the east: this defile should also be noticed as an important military strategical point. Here again we trace the route of Monson's army which passed this way in its hurried fight.

24. The hills I have enumerated are, for the most part, clothed with thick jungle, and their slopes in many places present the appearance of dense forest; the trees, however, are of stunted growth, and generally useless. A list of the woods indigenous to Haraotie is given in the body of this Report.

Forests.

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Lakes.

25. As elsewhere in Rajpootana, Haraotie abounds with those artificial lakes so valuable for irrigation purposes, and which in addition to their practical utility diversify the scenery.

Plains.

26. The plain country, or what may best be described as the grain-producing districts, lie principally to the east and south-east of the Kotah capital, and to the east and north-east of Boondee, in the direction of Indurgurh. Fifty years ago, we are told, it was difficult to find a path through the corn fields which covered the face of Haraotie; when there was not a nook or a patch capable of producing grain allowed to remain fallow, and when an area equal to nearly 3,00,000 English acres was under the highest cultivation, and then Kotah might have truly been described the granary of this part of India. It is recorded indeed that in 1804, "during the Mahratta war, when Holkar was in Bhurtpore State, and predatory armies were moving in every direction, and when famine and war conjoined to desolate the country, Kotah fed the whole population of Rajwarra, and supplied all those roving hordes. In that season grain being fifty-five rupees per manni* was sold to the enormous amount of one crore of rupees, or a million sterling."

27. But it should be remembered that in those days the whole country was formed by Zalim Singh, whose extraordinary ability enabled him to do wonders; after his demise re-action set in, troubles ensued, the principality was divided, and apathy and neglect have since prevailed.

28. I recently marched through the districts here described; the country is one vast plain with little beyond an undulation to break the horizon.

The large sheets of cultivation through which I passed abundantly prove that the soil still remains a "rich tenacious mould," and doubtless is fully as capable now of yielding productive returns as in days gone by; but the requisite energy is wanting.

Cities and towns.

29. The city of Boondee contains a population of 40,000 inhabitants. It is picturesquely situated in the gorge of a range of hills; there is little remarkable about the town; a wall environs it; and the entrances to it are by three massive gates. The principal bazars are of good width, but no attempt has yet been made to metal or drain the streets.

The most striking feature in the capital of the Haras is the palace, which for beauty of situation and design is unsurpassed in Rajpootana. The Chutter Mahl, its most modern addition, has two fine halls supported by double ranges of columns of serpentine from the Boondee quarries.

30. The only other town specially deserving of notice in this State is Nynwah, about 30 miles to the north-east of the capital. It contains a population of 10,000 inhabitants, and is surrounded by strong fortifications, and ditch kept in excellent preservation, and flanked on its northern and western faces by large tanks, whereby the fosse can be flooded at pleasure.

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* One manni equal to 12 maunds.

31. The city of Kotah has been so often described, there is but little nere to add. It is remarkable as being surrounded by peculiarly strong ramparts and bastions of solid masonry filled in with rubble, some of these being as much as 100 feet in height and breadth, whilst its position on the right banks of the Chumbul (and its being built parallel with that river) renders the place unusually strong. A fine artificial lake washes its walls to the extent of nearly a mile on the eastern face.

32. The city itself is divided into three parts, each separated from the other by a strong wall and gateway, and including its environs or suburbs contains some 30,000 houses, with a population of 100,000 inhabitants.

Two Kotwals are appointed to this charge, and an establishment of 200 municipal police is maintained as watchmen for the city.

33. The inhabitants for the most part are composed of Rajpoots, Brahmins, Bunyahs, and Kyuts; other classes, such as the Tumolee, Chumar, Bhullaie, Kulal, and Bhyragee are of course to be found in considerable numbers at Kotah as at all large habitations.

34. Prior to the rebellion the Boras, a mercantile tribe of Mahomedans who come from Surat on the sea coast of Guzerat into Central India, numbered in considerable force at Kotah, but they have during the last ten years greatly diminished. They are an enterprizing commercial people, and deserve every encouragement.

There may still be counted in Kotah nearly 1,000 Borahs under the spiritual ruler of a Moolah or priest. At Jhalra Patun and Boondee also there is a sprinkling of the Borah class.

The Borah of Rajpootana is frequently of immense service to the cultivator, whom he supplies with whatever he requires, and affords him support until the harvest is ready to be reaped, when accounts are settled between them.

35. The general appearance of Kotah is imposing. Its huge fortifications stand out boldly to protect the town and palace, whose cupolas and slender minarets are reflected in the waters of the Chumbul, here some 400 yards in breadth, and flowing in a deep and rocky bed. To follow the windings of this river from Kotah to Bhynsrore in the south would well repay both the naturalist and the painter.

36. The climate is unquestionably bad; almost unbearably hot during the summer months, and dangerously unhealthy during the monsoon. Sickness at this season has been attributed to the rise of the Chumbul, whose waters filtrating through the fissures of rock, upon which Kotah is mainly built, fill the wells "with mineral poison and the essence of decomposed vegetation."

37. Of Sangode and Mangrole there is little to remark beyond recording that they are towns of note in the principality of Kotah, each containing a population of some 12,000 souls.

Mangrole is to be remembered in consequence of the battle of that name, which in 1821 was fought between the army of Kishen Singh, then Maharao of Kotah, and the troops of his Minister Zalim Singh (aided by the British), in which the Maharao sustained defeat, and his brother, Pirthee Singh, heir to the Kotah throne, was killed.

To commemorate the death of the Prince the place is kept up as a Royal Mausoleum out of State funds, and the Chuttrees' temples and gardens are well worth seeing.

38. On visiting Mangrole during my last tour I was pleased to find that the monument erected to the memory of two British officers, Lieutenants Clarke and Reid, of the 4th Regiment Light Cavalry, who fell in a charge made during the action alluded to, is well and carefully preserved, although five and forty years have since elapsed; and at Burohd also, where lie the remains of the late Colonel Ludlow, C. B., who distinguished himself during the Mahratta war of 1814-15, I found the tomb nicely kept and cared for.

Respect for the memory of our dead appears doubly gratifying when it is shown in territory not our own, and far from any care we can evince for them; and I have expressed to the Maharao of Kotah the pleasure with which I returned from visiting the graves I have enumerated.

39. Barrah, the principal mart to which cultivators take their produce, is a large town containing some 20,000 inhabitants, and centrically situated in the grain districts about 45 miles south-east of the Kotah capital. The town itself repays a visit, and its principal street is tastefully built; a fortified wall defends the place on its northern face, and this is now in course of construction all round. At the south-western angle of the town an enclosed fortified square is built, amply supplied with water, and containing several subterranean pits utilized as granaries.

40. I inspected two different kinds of pits; that called a "Khas" must be described as better calculated to last as a permanency than the other known as a "Kai," the more common of the two; the former is solidly built round, and covered by a stone roof resembling an ordinary pigeon house in appearance; whilst the "Kai" is but a simple excavation, very narrow at the mouth, and expanding to a considerable width under ground. The only preparation these pits undergo is the incineration of certain vegetable substances, and lining the sides with wheat and barley stubble. The grain is then deposited, and may thus remain for years without injury. Formerly immense quantities were in this manner hoarded until prices rose sufficiently high, or any emergency took place.

41. Jhalra Patun (the capital of Jhallawar), founded by Zalim Singh, and so called from the Jhalra tribe of Rajpoots to which the regent belonged, contains 50,000 inhabitants. The city is nearly a square surrounded by high walls and bastions; the streets are built with regularity, and no little architectural design, which renders Jhalra Patun perhaps next in rank to Jeypore amongst the Rajpoot capitals; it falls very far short of the beauties of that place however.

Chapter III.

States—Boondee.

Extent and Boundary.

42. The principality of Boondee lies between 24° 58′ and 25° 55′ north latitude, and 75° 33′ and 76° 30′ east longitude. It is bounded on the north by Jeypore, on the south and on the east by Kotah, and on the west by the State of Meywar.

It is 85 miles in length and 50 miles in breadth, containing an area of 2,291 square miles, with a population of about 2,24,000.

43. Maharao Rajah Ram Singh, the present Ruler, is about 58 years of age. He succeeded his father as Chief of Boondee forty-seven years ago. As a young man he was a fine horseman and a good sportsman; he has carefully avoided excess of any kind; and has been through life simple and moderate in all his tastes.

His Highness has received the right of adoption.

44. Bheem Singh, the heir-apparent, is about 30 years of age; he has been fairly educated, and is naturally quick and intelligent. The Maharao Rajah entrusts to him certain duties connected with the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the State.

45. His Highness has three illegitimate sons, Arjoon Singh, Goordhun Singh, and Juggornath Singh.

The eldest is commander of the forces and State fortresses; the second is in charge of the fortifications at the capital commonly called Taragurh; and the third holds command of a regiment.

46. The Chief is assisted in the conduct of affairs by three brothers of the Hindoo Borah class from Bhurnuggur in Guzerat; the eldest of whom, Bohora Jeewun Lall, holds the chief ministership; the second, Bohora Imrut Lall, is, at his own request, without office, but he has influence as an adviser; and the third, Bohora Chumpa Lall, has charge of the Criminal and Civil Courts, subject to appeal to the heir-apparent, from whom again a case may be finally referred to His Highness.

The family has long been resident in the Boondee State, and their father, Bohora Tola Ram, was a distinguished official prior to our relations with it.

47. These brothers are generally supposed to be the real power in the State; they are undoubtedly clever, and as such of course exercise considerable influence with their master, but personal observation and other concurrent causes induce me to believe that to the Maharao Rajah himself must attach any real credit or discredit for the government of the country; for His Highness is peculiarly jealous of authority, and I would attribute the action of his Ministers to obedience rather than spontaneity.

48. The history of this State during the past two years is unmarked by any event of great importance.

Towards the close of 1865-66 the Maharao Rajah proceeded on pilgrimage to Benares and Gya, and returned to his capital in November last.

During the time His Highness visited Nagode, where he espoused the niece of the Oochera Chief, and celebrated the nuptials of the heir-apparent.

Revenue and tribute.

49. The revenues of Boondee, fiscal and feudal, little exceed five lakhs of rupees, or £50,000 sterling, and the State pays an annual sum to the British Government of Rupees 1,20,000, *viz.*, Rupees 80,000 for the two-thirds share of Keshorai Patun, which Boondee holds as a perpetual fief from the British Government, in addition to the tribute of Rupees 40,000 payable under the Treaty of 1818. Of this an annual sum of Rupees 30,000 is made over to Holkar as compensation of his share of the Patun District.

50. The expenditure consequent upon the Chief's protracted absence from his capital has proved financially embarrassing to him, and four instalments of the tribute, or Rupees 2,40,000, fell into arrears. With considerable difficulty the Maharao Rajah has, since his return, liquidated half that sum; and has solicited the sanction of Government to be allowed to pay off the balance, Rupees 1,20,000, in three years, by six half-yearly instalments of Rupees 20,000 each, over and above the fixed annual tribute.

Sanction since received.

The question has been submitted for the favourable consideration of Government.

51. Some little explanation would appear necessary as to why His Highness should have undertaken so expensive a journey. The reasons were as follows:—The Maharao Rajah is advanced in years, and it was a source of anxiety to him that he should once more bathe in the holy waters of the Ganges.

His son was betrothed to the Oochera Chief's daughter; a portion of her dowry had been paid, and had any excuses been urged to delay the fulfilment of the contract, discredit would have reflected on the Boondee Durbar. His Highness was also very desirous to see a son born to his heir, three previous marriages having resulted in no issue.

52. Actuated thus by the powerful influence of religious and family interests, and with the credit of his Raj at stake, a temporary absence became almost imperative; however, any pecuniary difficulties His Highness may now be labouring under are entirely attributable to subsequent needless procrastination, for the journey, as originally proposed by the Chief, would not have embarrassed the State.

53. The most casual observer passing through Boondee would be impressed with the impoverished condition of the State generally. Even at the capital itself this sense of impecuniosity is apparent, and little of the pomp and glitter once described as belonging to Boondee now remains.

54. That this should be so of course implies mismanagement; and unfortunately the Maharao Rajah has hitherto evinced little desire to take advice.

Personally His Highness appears to considerable advantage. Aristocratic in mien, his manners and general intelligence are very prepossessing, and when dealing with generalities he appears most willing to do well, but a desire to avoid acquiescence in any particular shortcoming brought to his notice is proverbial with this Chief, and when

matters have to be discussed in writing, there is always a spirit of passive resistance shown to improvement of any kind.

It is this, I think, which has led to the idea that he is influenced by others; but my experience does not bear this out, and I believe everything emanates from himself.

55. The steady opposition offered by this Durbar to all suggestions of reform had long been experienced by my predecessors, and on taking charge of this Office I found matters in an unsatisfactory condition as regards Boondee. References of an ordinary nature were either ignored entirely, or obtained replies after months of delay; calls for the liquidation of compensatory awards were as so much waste paper; no point, however trivial, was conceded without much correspondence and litigation. The Vakeel was a perfect cipher, without even authority to furnish a stage route through his territory, to call in a witness residing within a few miles of him, or even obtain carts or coolies from the adjacent Boondee villages without reference to, and the written sanction of his, Durbar; whilst officers passing through the districts, either as travellers or sportsmen, invariably complained of the treatment they experienced.

56. I soon clearly explained that if public matters in connection with Boondee were not transacted more cordially, it would be my duty to report the same. I pointed out the absurdity of appointing a Vakeel, who from all absence of power and authority was useless and a laughing-stock, and that if His Highness had no confidence in his Vakeel, he should be relieved by one in whom he had reliance, but that the main object of having a Vakeel at all was defeated by the present state of things, the principal use of his deputation being to avoid referring trivialities to the Durbar on all occasions; and I added that in future, if answers to references and witnesses sent for did not appear within a reasonable time, cases must necessarily be disposed of *ex parte*.

57. I am glad to report that matters from that time considerably improved in all the particulars enumerated; and the Maharao Rajah has lately expressed to me, both verbally and in writing, his intention of instituting reform in many points urgently calling for it. Amongst these are the following:—

1. The present building used as a jail is to be changed for one more suited to requirements.
2. The Raj Dispensary is to be placed on a proper footing.
3. Chowkees are to be placed at intervals of one koss along the whole line passing through Boondee territory for the protection of the British mails.
4. A Nazim has been appointed under the Political Agent to superintend His Highness's Meena subjects (this is a measure calculated to do much good, it has often been urged, but only now conceded).
5. A proclamation has been issued to his people to pay proper attention to British Officers on duty or travelling through his territory.
6. The Durbar will sanction the exportation of a certain quantity of grain for the use of the Deolie Cantonment.

58. With regard to this last point, I would observe that prior to my arrival at this station the exportation of grain from Boondee had been entirely interdicted. During the past two years, however, a small quantity has been annually allowed.

59. Whilst, then, it is pleasing to be in a position to record that promises have been made to improve matters, I cannot express myself very sanguine as to their being with sincerity fulfilled.

60. Measures for the suppression of crime in Boondee are glaringly defective, principally as regards theft and robbery, for, strange as it may seem, serious instances would appear more rare in Boondee than in other States possessing better repressive arrangements.

This anomaly attracted my attention when travelling through Boondee territory, and I could not fail to remark how seldom was appeal made against oppression, or redress sought for serious crime.

61. In justice to the Maharao Rajah, I must add that, comparatively speaking, the people of Boondee appear contented under his rule; they are as poor as they well can be, but there is seemingly no great grievance to oppress them; and it is also right to observe that the word of the Durbar is respected, and the bankers have faith in his bond. In this respect Boondee will contrast favourably with most of these States.

62. It is, however, much to be deplored that His Highness should evince such a vexatious spirit of opposition to every suggestion (no matter what it may be) calculated to ameliorate the condition of the State (and the more so as he is intelligent and fully capable of understanding what is for the real benefit of his country), but that it is so there can be no doubt; and though improvement has taken place, there is yet a very wide margin left for it.

Kotah.

63. The principality of Kotah lies between 24° 30′, 25° 50′ north latitude, and 75° 35′, 76° 56′ east longitude. It is bounded on the north-west by the River Chumbul, which separates Kotah fron Boondee; on the south by the Mokundurra range of hills and Jhallawar; on the east by Scindhia's dominions, the Tonk District of Chuppra, and part of Jhallawar; and on the west by Meywar.

Extent and Boundary.

Its extreme length from north to south may be put down at 90 miles, and its breadth at 80 miles, containing an area of 5,000 square miles, with a population of 4,50,000.

64. The revenues of Kotah, fiscal and feudal, may be roughly estimated at 25 lakhs of rupees, or £2,50,000 sterling.

Revenue.

The tribute payable to the British Government is Rupees 1,84,720 in addition to the two lakhs of rupees for the maintenance of an auxiliary force.

Tribute and contribution.

65. The death of the late Maharao Ram Singh of Kotah has necessarily been the event of most importance in this State during the period under review. After reporting last year the demise of His Highness, I did myself the honor to allude briefly to the condition in which he had left the State, and her prospects under the new Ruler.

Death of the late Chief.

66. Maharao Sutroo Sal has now occupied his father's position for eleven months, during which I have had many opportunities of learning his disposition, and it is so far pleasing to record that during

Character and disposition of the present Ruler.

his short incumbency His Highness has made a considerable reduction in the extravagant expenditure so recklessly indulged in prior to his succession.

67. By the following Table it will be observed that during the last few years of the late Chief's life the annual expenditure over income amounted to upwards of four lakhs of rupees, and the State was drifting hopelessly into debt.

68. The items are given approximately; perfectly correct data are most difficult to obtain, indeed impossible without the exercise of a larger measure of interference than is desirable or called for; but the figures here shown may be considered sufficiently reliable to give a fair general idea of the past and present financial condition of Kotah.

69. The present revenue from all sources to meet expenditure may be estimated in round numbers at about Rupees 21,69,366.

The outlay as follows:—

Annual Expenditure of the Kotah State prior to the death of Maharao Ram Singh, and as existing at present under reductions made by Maharao Sutroo Sal Singh.

Items of Expenditure.	Late Chief.	Present Chief.	Amount of Reduction.
Tribute and Contribution (Fouj Khurch)* ...	3,64,720	3,64,720	...
Instalment towards debt	3,16,000	3,16,000	...
Army	4,27,000	3,86,000	41,000
Khas Kotar, Russooee, &c.	2,18,000	1,41,742	76,258
Umbar Stables	2,21,000	1,87,409	33,591
Miscellaneous expenditure	20,000	18,820	1,180
Forage Grass, &c.	51,000	41,000	10,000
Fort Chowkees	83,000	71,661	11,339
Maintenance of Fort of Gagrone, &c. ...	46,000	43,000	3,000
Wood, fuel, &c.	8,000	7,000	1,000
Toshakhana, Wardrobe	96,000	75,000	21,000
Zenana expenses	55,000	40,000	15,000
Pay of Establishment...	25,000	25,000	...
Gardens	17,000	16,000	1,000
Elephants, Garries, Ruths, &c.	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000
Kitchen	5,000	4,760	240
Utter and Scents	3,000	2,727	273
Sweetmeats	1,500	1,283	217
Gold and silver work	2,000	1,900	100
Cooking pots	1,000	1,000	...
Camel hire...	7,000	6,000	1,000
Interest	1,00,000	50,000	50,000
Collections and charitable bequests ...	2,80,000	2,67,000	13,000
Contingencies	1,00,000	1,00,000	...
	25,97,220	22,68,022	3,29,198

* Exclusive of tribute paid by Kotries, which raises it to Rupees 3,84,720.

70. Notwithstanding, then, a reduction during the past year of upwards of 3 lakhs of rupees, the expenditure is still nearly a lakh in excess of income, but considering the present Maharao has been so short a time in power, the results shown reflect creditably on His Highness. He assures me his energies are directed towards reconciling outlay to receipts, and the matter has my earnest attention.

71. Whilst, however, giving to the Maharao every credit for having evinced an early inclination to place the administration of his country on a sounder footing, I should not be justified in withholding the fact that time has enabled me to observe failings in the character of His Highness which are calculated to operate injuriously if not checked.

72. Few of the Rajpoot Chieftains are exempt from excesses of some nature, and remembering the life of obscurity passed by the Maharao prior to the late Chief's death, there is little to excite surprise that he should have contracted the habit of indulging too freely in spirituous liquors; at the same time any weakness of the kind being for obvious reasons fraught with danger to the interests of Kotah, it is most desirable His Highness should curb the indulgence speedily. He has recently assured me of his intention so to do, and being in many matters by no means deficient we must hope he may be induced to recognize this necessity; but moral courage and determination are required, qualities not largely possessed by Native Princes in general, and here doubtless exists the great difficulty in the future administration of Kotah.

73. The late Chief's Ministers were soon turned out of office; nor was this a matter of surprise or regret. For many years previously their master had been almost imbecile, and all his life the weakest of Rulers. To them was the condition of State fairly attributable, and at the end of their stewardship that condition was one of mismanagement in all branches of its administration.

74. Upon their removal it became an intricate question as to who should be permanently appointed in their stead, and it still remains so, for there exists unfortunately but a very few honest officials in the State at all. One appointed by the Chief last year gave every promise of doing well, but the Maharao failed to repose confidence in him, and he resigned; the choice is now very limited.

75. Those holding office are not well fitted for their positions; and I cannot hope to see this State properly managed until the Chief shall appoint some really honest and able Minister.

76. A review of the past is undoubtedly calculated to shake the confidence of His Highness in the integrity of Native officials, and it should inculcate the imperative necessity of exercising judicious caution in their selection; but in many matters it is of course necessary to trust subordinates, and this being so, it is most desirable the Maharao should look upon a man, when once after mature consideration appointed, as honest until he proves himself, or is proved to be, the reverse; this His Highness finds it difficult to do, and I have not failed in private intercourse to impress upon the Chief that unless he follows this course he will always experience difficulty in securing the services of any really good man. I pointed out also how he had already lost the services of one generally acknowledged trustworthy official. The Maharao freely admits the truth of this, and I trust time may induce him to act accordingly.

77. There are few countries which possess such natural advantages as Kotah in the richness of her soil, and with even fair management results could be shown which would not only speedily relieve the State from the heavy burden of debt under which she now staggers, but soon place a balance to her credit; and this could be done by the simple exercise of honesty, energy, and foresight. But hitherto the first principles of Government have been wilfully ignored. It is sincerely to be hoped that its future may not be as conspicuously marked as its past administration has been for extreme laxity in meeting pecuniary responsibilities.

78. If His Highness can be induced to appoint a trustworthy person as his Minister, who will look his difficulties in the face, reduce expenditure within income, make proper arrangements for the suppression of crime, and honestly regard the interests of Kotah as paramount to all others, there is no reason why in a few years she should not become a flourishing and prosperous principality.

79. The restoration last year to the Maharao of Kotah of the honors and salute enjoyed by the late Chief prior to the sad events of 1857 is gratefully appreciated by His Highness.

80. The Maharao attended the Viceregal Durbar held at Agra in November last.

81. Maharao Sutroo Sal Singh has no legitimate children. His Highness has received the right of adoption.

82. The feeling between the Durbar and some of the Kotree fiefs has for many years been less amicable than is desirable. The relations which exist between them are not very clearly defined, and this is doubtless the cause of differences; the one doubtless endeavouring to exact more than was originally intended, the other trying to concede less.

83. These fiefs were originally subordinate to Boondee, who assigned to them their domains, and when that Chief made over the fortress of Runthumbore to the house of Delhi a certain stipend was demanded from them in return for protection from the Imperial Fortress. Subsequently, when Runthumbore was resigned to Amber (Jeypore) as a trust, the Jeypore State made claim to the same tribute from the Haraotie Kotrees, for which Zalim Singh, Minister of Kotah, undertook to be responsible and save them from the annual visitations of Jeypore troops; thus withdrawing to himself the proper allegiance of these Chiefships from Boondee, who was unable to protect them.

84. They now pay tribute through Kotah to Jeypore as follows:—

	Kotree Fiefs.	Tribute payable to Jeypore State through Kotah.		
		Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
1.	The Maharajah of Indurgurh	6,969	6	0
2.	Do. of Khatowlie	3,982	8	0
3.	Do. of Gainta	193	9	0
4.	Do. of Peepulda	663	12	0
5.	Do. of Kurwar	331	14	0
6.	Do. of Bhulwun	1,128	6	0
7.	Do. of Anturda	1,128	6	0
	Total, Rupees	14,397	13	0

All these Chiefs enjoy the title of Maharajah, but Indurgurh and Khatowlie are the only two possessing large estates; the revenues of the former may be estimated at 3 lakhs of rupees, or nearly three times as much as those of the independent States of Jeysulmere, Doongurpore, or Sirohi.

The revenues of Khatowlie have been estimated at about Rupees 70,000 per annum.

85. In the early part of 1865-66 this Chieftain was tried by a Commission composed of his Kotree brethren, under the presidency of a British Officer, to enquire into the suspicious circumstances attendant upon the death of the Ferara Chief, who died as a prisoner in the hands of his kinsman of Khatowlie.

The Maharajah was exonerated from the charge of murder, but the Court were of opinion the Ferara Chieftain had experienced harsh and cruel treatment at his hands. A fine of Rupees 10,000 was inflicted on Khatowlie; and further, the Ferara Chief was declared wholly and entirely independent of that Chiefship, and placed directly under the suzerainty of Kotah.

86. On my visit to Kotah in January last year the late Maharao complained to me of his inability to induce the Chiefs noted on the margin to pay their tribute, for which His Highness was responsible. The Chief expressed his desire to avoid, if possible, coercive measures, and having urged me to effect some amicable arrangement I determined to visit Indurgurh, and invited the Chief mentioned to meet me there.

Indurgurh, Khatowlie, Bhulwun, and Anturda.

87. The Maharajahs of Indurgurh and Khatowlie at once acknowledged their liabilities to Kotah, and intimated they had long been ready to pay, but could not induce the Durbar to grant receipts for the monies, which acknowledgments they desired as a voucher that the same had been paid. As their confidence in the integrity of the Raj officials appeared to be somewhat shaken, this did not appear an unreasonable request, and I found their statements to be in accordance with facts. They each, moreover, complained of the manner in which they were received at the capital as derogatory to their high rank. The unjust occupation by the Jeypore Durbar of the villages of Babye, which has been decided by the Governor General's Agent to belong to Indurgurh, was also urged as an excuse for delay by that Chief. The Maharajah was of opinion that the revenues of Babye wrongfully collected by Jeypore should be refunded to him by an equivalent deduction in his tribute to that State (whilst on this subject, I would observe that this claim on Jeypore still remains unpaid, and is a source of grievance to Indurgurh).

88. I explained to the Chiefs that imagined grievances could in no way justify a non-recognition of their obligations; I informed them I would ask the Maharao to grant a receipt for monies paid, and that I felt sure any fancied slights would be satisfactorily explained on their next visiting Kotah. They concurred in all I said. The Maharajah of Indurgurh liquidated arrears up to date, amounting to some Rupees 20,000, and subsequently the Khatowlie Chief remitted some Rupees 32,000.

The Anturda Rajah explained that the Durbar had no claim upon him, and this turned out to be true.

The Bhulwun Chief acknowledged his liability, but pleaded inability to discharge it; but he stated his willingness to proceed to Kotah and make arrangements with the Maharao. His debt only amounted to Rupees 9,000.

89. The Kotah State thus amicably recovered upwards of half a lakh of rupees, which for years she had been unable to do; and, although there is no great cordiality evinced between the Durbar and some of these Chiefs, the settlement of these pecuniary questions, which had so long been pending, has tended to lessen ill-feeling.

Upon some of the Kotrees the Raj has conferred jageers, and one or two of them are always in attendance at the Kotah Court.

90. The supply of grain from the Kotah Districts for the use of the Neemuch Cantonment has hitherto given considerable trouble and annoyance.

The Maharao of Kotah sanctions the exportation from his territory of a certain quantity of grain annually, remitting all taxation on such as may be declared requisite, *bonâ fide* for the British troops stationed at Neemuch, and accepting half transit dues on that exported for other residents there. The acknowledgments of the Government of India have been conveyed to the Kotah Durbar for this concession; but for many years past matters have been unsatisfactorily adjusted; charges and countercharges have year after year been brought forward by the Kotah Durbar and the Cantonment dealers, the former complaining of oppression and extortion, the latter of false promises and want of assistance; and on receiving charge of this Office I found that the grain question had assumed a very bulky file of correspondence.

91. There is little doubt there had been faults on both sides.

It was hardly to be expected the Cantonment Bunyahs would not try to effect a little business on their own account, and there is no doubt whatever considerable quantities of grain left Kotah territory for Neemuch, which never reached that Cantonment. It was also declared to be an object for the grain-dealers to import only a small quantity of grain into Neemuch at a time, and thus maintain high prices. To enable them to do this it was necessary to charge the Durbar with lukewarmness, and want of assistance in procuring carriage, all of which created much unpleasantness. I do not exonerate the Durbar from their share of blame, and doubt not they could have evinced more energy in the matter had such been their real desire; but it is fair to record that as regards the official year 1864-65, when repeated complaints were being made against Kotah for prohibiting exportation, it was shown that the Neemuch Cantonment had been almost entirely dependent for grain on Kotah and her resources, Dhar, Gwalior, Meywar, Banswarra, and Bhopaul having all been closed against them.

92. It was also pointed out, with reference to the retail rates obtaining within the Neemuch Cantonment, that when wheat was

being purchased by the dealers at twenty seers the rupee in Kotah territory, it was being sold at 5 seers the rupee at Neemuch, and thus the concession made by the Native State in favour of the soldier consumers was being exclusively reaped by the dealer, though the grain is procured for the latter through an Agency without which he could not obtain it.

93. It is, moreover, worthy of remark that Kotah is not the grain-producing country she once was, cotton and opium having largely taken the place of cereals; nor is Neemuch the only drain upon her resources.

94. The death of the Maharao last year, a few days prior to the date upon which it is usual to export grain, was an event sufficiently important to paralyze temporarily the conduct of ordinary affairs in any Native administration, and unfortunately the grain question was for a time neglected. However, 22,800 maunds free of taxation, or transit duty of any kind, were exported, notwithstanding the Chief's demise, irrespective of a small quantity purchased by the dealers not yet received at Neemuch.

95. With regard to the future supply, the present Maharao prefers allowing the grain-dealers to enter the market as other purchasers do with their money and means of transport. They will be furnished by the Durbar with a purwana sanctioning the exportation of a certain fixed quantity of grain free of tax, and no obstacle will be offered to the purchase by them of that quantity at the current rates of the day.

A receipt will be taken, and a copy of it forwarded for the information of the Cantonment authorities, who can thus check any attempt at imposition on the part of the dealers.

96. His Highness, in short, expresses himself perfectly willing to allow our troops as much grain, if a sufficiency be forthcoming, as the resources of his State can be reasonably expected to afford; a certain amount will be named, and the Chief's written sanction be made over to the purchasers to the effect that if they can buy that quantity they are welcome to do so, and take it away free of tax. He wishes the transaction to be one entirely between buyer and seller, and adjusted between themselves.

97. On a recent occasion the representatives of the Neemuch Grain Company and Government Commissariat assured me that the arrangements set forth above for the future were most satisfactory to them; and I trust my next Report will record that the grain difficulties have at length been removed.

98. The great error hitherto committed by the Durbar has been that of promising more than they could, or were willing to perform, and this the Maharao is anxious to avoid in future, for it must naturally be somewhat disheartening to the Chief to feel that, notwithstanding a considerable quantity of grain is annually furnished by his State to our troops free of tax, he incurs more odium, because that quantity is not larger than other Chiefs who contribute nothing towards the maintenance of our military Cantonments at all.

Jhallawar.

Extent and Boundary.

99. The principality of Jhallawar extends from 24° 6′ to 24° 40′ north latitude, and from 76° 30′ to 76° 58′ east longitude, containing an area of 2,500 square miles, with a population of 2,26,000. It is bounded on the north by the Mokundurra range of hills, on the south and south-west by Western Malwa, on the east by Scindhia's territory, and on the west by the dominions of Holkar.

Revenue and tribute.

100. The gross revenue from all sources may be estimated at 15 lakhs of rupees, or £150,000 sterling. The annual tribute payable to the British Government is Rupees 80,000.

101. In many particulars Jhallawar presents a very marked and favourable contrast with the other States of Haraotie. It would seem hitherto that the Maharaj Rana has been as eager to meet us half way towards introducing measures of improvement, as the Chief of Boondee has been the reverse; the hearty co-operation afforded by the one, compared with the passive opposition evinced by the other, has been so apparent that I may be pardoned for alluding to a distinction so conspicuous which might otherwise be deemed an invidious comparison.

The cordial feeling entertained by the Maharaj Rana towards the British Government is very satisfactory, and the conciliatory manner in which our relations are carried on with this State equally so.

102. The Maharaj Rana is extravagantly inclined, and the principality is in debt, but His Highness assures me that these matters are under every consideration.

I speak of the State liabilities as connected necessarily with the internal condition of the State, and not because they have been brought to my notice by the creditors. Had I waited to be informed by the bankers to whom the money is due, I should yet be in ignorance that the State was involved, and I mention this circumstance as indicative of the good faith apparently entertained for the word of the Chief. In Kotah, I regret to say, past experience has induced a feeling of distrust, and an impression that Durbar promises are made without any intention of being fulfilled, a grievance which is openly declaimed against by the Raj creditors.

103. During the past two years I can think of no proposition submitted for the consideration of the Jhallawar Chief which has not met with a cordial response.

The Maharaj Rana willingly remitted the transit dues levied on grain passing through his territories for the use of British Cantonments.

His Highness at once consented to make over the land which might be required in the event of a railway passing through Jhallawar.

104. There are points in the administration which call for attention, but there is every hope of their receiving it, and it affords me pleasure to report favourably of the general condition of this State.

105. The Maharaj Rana attended the Viceregal Durbar in November last, and is at this present time on a pilgrimage to Benares and other places. His Highness purposes visiting Calcutta prior to his return; he has already seen Bombay, and possessing, as the Chief does,

not only a desire to extend his knowledge of the world, but the sense to appreciate what he sees, such journies are calculated to be of much benefit to him and the country over which he rules.

106. For many years there has been a jealousy evinced to acknowledge this Chief's position as an independent Prince, and there is little cause for surprise that such should have been the case. The principality dating only from 1838 was created as a provision for the family of a clever officer of State, and the proud Rajpoot Chieftains, who delight to honor those rulers only who can trace back their ancestry by centuries, would naturally regard the descendant of so recent a creation in the light of a parvenu.

107. This feeling, however, is gradually subsiding. Kotah perhaps, who cannot help sighing for what she has lost, may still entertain some little heartburning toward her near neighbour, which is hardly to be marvelled at in the present condition of feeling and society in Native States; though a little calm reflection might prove to Kotah even that the man who robbed her of so much gave to her far more than he ever took away, though he gained a principality; but the present Chief of Jhallawar is pleasant in manners and address, and has recently had opportunities of exchanging visits with Princes of older rank, which has raised him somewhat in Rajpoot estimation.

108. The Maharao Rajah of Ulwur married the Jhallawar Chief's daughter in 1861.

The Maharaj Rana has experienced much domestic affliction, having lost two sons in succession; he has now no legitimate offspring. The right of adoption has been conferred upon His Highness.

Administration of Justice.

109. The means employed for the administration of justice in all these States are one and the same, and too well known to need description here: suffice it to observe, that the same abuses remarkable elsewhere are equally apparent in Haraotie.

110. The Chiefs exercise supreme civil and criminal jurisdiction within the limits of their respective States. As elsewhere, they are guided entirely by the dictates of their own judgment, tempered by the acknowledged sanction of prescriptive usage founded on the Hindoo Shasturs.

111. At the capital the Dewanee and Foujdaree Adawluts are under the direction of two officers of State, called Nazims, whose decisions are subject to the Court of Appeal, presided over by the Chief himself.

Intricate civil suits are occasionally made over to the arbitration of a punchayut, certainly the fairest and most popular tribunal under existing circumstances.

112. In the districts civil cases are adjudicated by the Billadar or chief officer, subject to appeal to the Durbar. Criminal cases are decided in the Foujdaree Adawlut at the capital.

113. The adjudication of all spiritual offences is vested in two learned Brahmins, called Dhurm Shasturs.

Offences against caste are disposed of by punchayuts of the brotherhood.

114. Instances of serious crime in Haraotie during the past two years have not been numerous; yet the arrangements for its suppression are defective in Boondee and Kotah, and crimes of a lesser nature are occurrences very common.

The Chiefs promise immediate attention to the improvement of this important branch of the administration.

115. The Kotah Durbar has, during the period under review, evinced most praiseworthy exertions towards the effectual extinction of the crime of suttee. Two attempts only have been made, but they were both successfully prevented, and I have twice, in the last two years, had the pleasure to convey to the Maharao the acknowledgments of the British Government for his laudable exertions.

116. In the districts of Deeg, Pachpahar, Gungrar, and Ahor, commonly known as the Chowmahla, belonging to that portion of Jhallawar which extends to the south and south-west well into western Malwa, the police arrangements of the Maharaj Rana (reported in the Administration Report of the Central India Agency) have received commendatory notice by His Excellency the Viceroy.

117. A draft Treaty between the British Government and these States for the mutual extradition of criminal offenders has been submitted for the consideration of the various Chiefs.

The Maharaj Rana of Jhallawar has intimated his appreciation of this measure, and readily assents to the terms of the engagement. No reply has yet been received from Kotah or Boondee.

118. There are few points upon which the Princes of Rajasthan are more desirous of preserving an honorable reputation than that of affording "Surna," or the right of sanctuary to refugees from other States. To hand over to justice a man who thus throws himself upon the protection of a State is considered a discreditable act of baseness. To such an extent is this carried out, that arrogance and rebellion are undoubtedly fostered and encouraged by the confidence of protection thus inspired; and it frequently happens that the sheltering State is subjected to heavy pecuniary losses from abuse of hospitality; for example, a noble is at variance with his Chief, and seeks shelter in neighbouring foreign territory; thence he plants and carries out raids upon his own country, and when pursued returns across the border and is safe. It may readily be imagined that such a state of things is provocative of ill-feeling and disorder; but whilst acknowledging the right of a Chief, under certain circumstances to grant asylum to a foreigner, there is a very proper stipulation that so long as shelter is afforded and enjoyed, so long will the protecting State be held responsible for the acts of the refugee.

119. Strange to say, the Chiefs cannot recognize the injury they unwittingly do themselves in this matter; it never seems to occur to them that the time may come when the reciprocal extradition of State offenders will be of great moment to themselves, or did they for a moment really desire that political offenders should be allowed sanctuary; they might surely, without scruple, and with a proper regard for their own interests, stipulate that protection can be afforded conditionally on good behaviour only; that if the refugee cannot accept these terms, he must seek an asylum elsewhere.

Form of Government.

120. A descriptive outline of the form of government which exists in these States may not be deemed irrelevant.

In this respect the principalities of Haraotie differ from each other in no very essential particular, and I will therefore allude here to the largest and most important Chiefship—Kotah.

121. Administrative arrangements in Native States are much the same everywhere; there is no form of government, it is said, so dependent for success or the reverse on the personal character of the individual Ruler, and the condition of a State is doubtless an unerring test of the merits of the Chief, who is absolute.

122. In Rajpootana generally government in Native States is based on the feudal system, which is very similar to that which formerly obtained in Europe. The relations and kindred of a Chief have in general independent estates, for which in Kotah they pay both money and furnish "service" to their feudal superior in their own person and in that of their followers.

123. These Nobles at times exercise a discretionary privilege, which they regard as the hereditary prerogative of their order, *viz.*, the right of counselling their Prince; and they not unfrequently assemble if his measures appear to them ruinous, and endeavour to dissuade him, failing which they will oppose. There is little doubt that in this manner these petty Chiefs are of great service to a State, and the system operates beneficially as a check to the wilful abuse of despotic power.

124. Within the limits of their respective estates these Nobles retain the sole management of their land, and exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction; exception being made to the following heinous offences, which are adjudicated at the capital:—murder, homicide, suttee, sumadh, child-stealing, and rape; but all cases in which either the plaintiff or defendant happens to reside without the limits of that estate are treated internationally, and are tried by the Kotah Courts.

125. For the conduct of affairs at Kotah the following ministerial functionaries hold office:—

A Karbaree, or Chief Minister, who exercises a general supervisionary control over every department of the State.

A Duftry, or Record-keeper, who may be described as chancellor of the exchequer. He is the head of the Account Department; has to receive rents, exhibit Schedules of the actual revenue, and estimate probable receipts and expenditure.

The Mooneem is a sort of Chief Secretary to the Duftry, and he presides over the office of finance.

A Potdar or Treasurer.

There is a Naib Duftry, 4 writers of district purwanahs, 2 copyists, 2 readers, and about 35 mootasuddees or clerks.

Purwanahs are read to, and corrected by, the Karbaree, who is responsible for the correctness of their purport.

At Kotah the "Saie-wallah" is an important personage; his department may be termed a Register Office, wherein all Sunnuds, grants, &c., are duly entered.

The officers above enumerated are the chief civil functionaries of Government.

126. The Maharao himself is supposed to hold the chief command of the army.

In this principality there are three officers of State called Bukshees. The 1st Bukshee, or keeper of the gold stick, which he carries as his wand of office, officiates as master of the ceremonies on all public occasions. It is his duty to see that the various Chiefs and others are seated in their proper order of precedence, and his office is considered one of confidence and trust. The 2nd Bukshee is the channel of communication between the Durbar and its feudatories. It is the duty of this functionary to keep a roster of all the Nobles and Thakoors of State, and to warn them whenever their attendance may be required at Court, &c. The 3rd Bukshee is the paymaster of the forces, and accountable for all military expenses and disbursements.

127. The system for the administration of justice has already been described. The police arrangements are most defective, and are of but nominal service toward the protection of life and property.

In Kotah a system of espionage is maintained by the entertainment of 1,000 Hurkaras, principally Brahmins, each of whom carries a yellow staff. One of these individuals is located in every village of any consequence throughout the territory, nor does the smallest hamlet escape his vigilance by frequent periodical visitations. It is his duty to report the most minute circumstance to his Durbar.

128. This system was instituted by Zalim Singh, who found the principality struggling on a precarious income of 4 lakhs of rupees against the vicissitudes of troublous times when might was right, and by his sagacity and wondrously versatile talent, not only steered her safely through the storm, but landed her under British protection a flourishing Chiefship with a revenue of 40 lakhs of rupees.

129. Under his extraordinary supervision the espionage was perfect; but, as in other administrative arrangements, laxity has crept in, not through chinks, but gaping rents in the armour Zalim Singh fashioned, and now but the remnant remains to perpetuate his wisdom; imperfect however as the system has become, it is still found to be a very salutary check.

130. These Hurkaras are, of course, useful only as spies; they are unarmed, and are not called upon to exercise the executive functions of Police; they may be described as a body of undisguised detectives, and all come under their surveillance. The most trivial action of the Political Agent is reported to Kotah by them, and the Vakeel of their own Durbar is keenly watched.

Revenue.

131. The revenues of the Haraotie States are derived from the land tax and customs duties, the former levied direct by Government officials through the Potails of villages, who receive a percentage.

132. In Boondee the rents are levied principally in money payments, but there still remains in some villages the contribution in kind under the system known as the "Buttaie" settlement, which formerly obtained throughout Kotah until Zalim Singh instituted a change, and commuted it for a specific money rent apportioned to the area of the

land. The principle of this Buttaie system may be briefly described as follows:—

"When a Buttaie settlement is agreed upon, the common usage is, after setting apart the seed and pay of labourers, to divide the produce into two, four, or five shares; sometimes the Government takes one-half, at others two-fifths, and if moderate and just, only one-fourth, leaving in all cases to the cultivator the payment of dues to the Potail and all the officers of his village."

133. The Buttaie settlement is a popular one with the ryots, but disadvantageous to the Durbar; it affords opportunity for oppression on the part of the collector and fraud on that of the tenant, alike detrimental to the Government; this arrangement, however, is now so exceptional even in Boondee, that I may pass on to the system of money rents, which prevails generally throughout all three States.

134. The rents are levied in three annual instalments by the Potails of villages, who receive dues fixed at one and a half annas per beegah, two-thirds of which they have to pay the Durbar annually as nuzzurana. In addition to this the Potail has many advantages, he receives from the cultivator dues in kind, and holds his own lands on more advantageous terms than the ryot, over whom he exercises certain authority.

135. The rents having been collected are made over by the Potail to the Billadar or collector of the district, who proceeds once a year to the capital with his accounts of receipts and disbursements, which, after examination in the Mooneem's Office, are placed before the Chief, and, if found correct, the Billadar is vouchsafed a receipt, and directed to return to his charge.

136. Each village has its separate Potail and Putwarry or Register, who are hereditary officers, and, as elsewhere, there are always to be found the Bullaee, who acts in subordination to the Potail, and is required to possess accurate information regarding everybody and everything connected with the vlllage; the Sansree or village guide and chowkeedar, the Gaongoor (Purohit or village priest), the carpenter, choomar, blacksmith, barber, &c., all of whom have certain rights, but are mainly supported by the communities wherein they reside.

137. As a precautionary measure on the part of the Durbar, the Billadars appoint to each village a Shanah, or watchman, on Rupees 4 a month, whose duty is to watch the crops. This appointment originated when the Buttaie settlement was in vogue, and the value of a crop was estimated by measurement, and it was very necessary, because the royts were in the habit, and are still, of feeding upon the heads of corn and maize the moment it affords the least nourishment. It has since been kept up to prevent the cultivators from excusing themselves from full payment of rents due on the plea of a poor harvest.

138. The rents of land are necessarily regulated by the nature of the soil. The average rate per beegah of irrigated land may be put down at Rupees 5; of lands dependent upon rain at one rupee; and on pasturage and jungle tracts at from 4 to 8 annas.

139. With the exception of certain lands made over for 10 years to the bankers of Kotah in liquidation of debt, and which are farmed by them, the contract system nowhere exists in Haraotie.

The rents of these lands are collected direct by the bankers, but they exercise no civil or criminal jurisdiction.

International Jurisdiction.

140. In Rajpootana the settlement of all international questions of a criminal character is entrusted to a Court composed of Vakeels from the various States in the vicinity of its place of assembly. Thus at Deolie the Haraotie Court of Vakeels consists of representatives from the States of Meywar, Jeypore, Boondee, Kotah, Tonk, and Jhallawar.

141. When British interests are concerned, or at the request of the members, or in cases of importance or difficulty, as dacoitees or robberies with murder, the Political Agent takes his seat as President, and has a casting vote; on all other occasions it is his duty to supervise the working of the Court.

142. These International Tribunals take no cognizance of civil cases; they adjudicate in all of a criminal character for the general protection of person and property throughout these States. They are described as "simply Courts of equity for the adjudication of international offences, and do not claim to be elaborate means for the administration of laws. They are, however, the best tribunals that have been devised to meet the requirements of the rude and lawless tribes amongst whom they are established, and the peculiar circumstances of their feudal governments and international obligations."

143. Tabular general Statements of the working of the Haraotie Court of Vakeels for the official years 1865-66 and 1866-67 are attached. Each case is furnished in detail in the Returns submitted to the Governor General's Agent.

144. The average duration of cases is excessive, and will continue so until the attendance of witnesses be expedited; the rules for the guidance of these Courts direct that although it may not be always necessary to allow three months to elapse before proceeding with a case, "still in the absence of the accused judgment be deferred until that period after registry."

The time allowed for the appearance of a witness residing in Rajpootana also, it is laid down, should not exceed three months.

145. During the two years under review 207 cases have been filed in this Court and 186 cases disposed of, the average duration of each case being 57 $\frac{20}{31}$ days. Ten cases (or a percentage of 5·4 on the whole) have during the two years been appealed against; of these the decision of the Haraotie Court has been upheld in three instances, reversed in three instances, and four cases are still under consideration.

The detention of witnesses has not hitherto been registered, but will be recorded in future.

Chapter IV.

Miscellaneous.

Trade Statistics.

146. The difficulty of preparing statistical Returns of any kind connected with the administration of Native States is greatly enhanced by the reluctance generally evinced by Durbars to tender reliable information; but even when willing to do so, the Returns as yet can hardly be deemed trustworthy. Upon this subject I had lately the honor to observe that in a Report from the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, referred to in the *Gazette of India* dated 17th September 1864, it was shown that although for two years previously measures had been in operation there for registering trade both internal and external, that a cordon of posts had been established on the trunk and branch lines of traffic, and a writer at each of these points deputed to register the trade entering into and passing out of the country which was divided into three circles, so that the trade of each, or the trade taken as a whole, might be separately examined and considered; that notwithstanding these precautions Mr. Temple thought the Returns sufficiently correct only to afford a general abstract view of the extent, character, and value of the trade of these provinces; and it would be hopeless therefore to expect even the same amount of accuracy in the data afforded by Foreign States until similar measures are taken to ascertain and record imports and exports; this is in a measure being done, and in the meantime I must submit such information as circumstances have enabled me to collect. It must of course be taken as giving an approximate idea only of Haraotie commercially considered.

147. As already stated, the Principalities of Boondee, Kotah, and Jhallawar aggregately comprise an area of 9,800 square miles, a population of 900,000 souls, and a total revenue from all sources of about 45 lakhs of rupees.

Taken separately each State may be detailed as follows:—

Principalities.	Total Population.	Total Area.	Total Revenue from all sources.
1. Boondee	224,000	2,291	Rupees 5,00,000
2. Kotah	450,000	5,009	„ 25,00,000
3. Jhallawar	226,000	2,500	„ 15,00,000
Grand total ...	900,000	9,800	Rupees 45,00,000

148. Roughly calculated, the external trade of Haraotie, imports *plus* exports, may be set down at 5,50,000 maunds per annum, valued at 70 lakhs of rupees, or £700,000 sterling.

149. The imports for the most part consist of sugar from Mirzapore, salt from Sambhur (Jeypore), English piece-goods from Bombay, rice from various parts of the country, tobacco from Malwa, brass utensils from Bheelwarra in Meywar, and other places, and ghee, which is made in considerable quantities in the Meywar Kherar Districts, where the people subsist largely on the produce of their cattle.

The chief items of export are opium, grain, and cotton; the amount of opium annually exported from Jhalra Patun is very considerable. In a fine season it is asserted that its value may be put down in round numbers at 70 lakhs of rupees, but I am inclined to think this must be over-estimated, and that from 45 to 50 lakhs would more correctly represent an average year.

Roads.

150. At the capitals of Kotah and Jhallawar a few miles of road have been constructed, beyond which there are no metalled communications in Haraotie.

The main line between the three capitals of this province passes through the Mokundurra defile, and for the most part over rocky undulating country, which would render the cost of making a road costly and troublesome; and it may be wise to await the final decision of Government as to the exact course the projected railway through Rajpootana shall follow, before urging the Chiefs to incur an expenditure which may possibly be better laid out hereafter in the construction of feeders to that line. In the districts there are fair weather roads sufficiently good for all practical purposes.

Education.

151. The subject of education is one which Rajpoot Chieftains especially disregard, for, although there may be one or more educational institutions possibly in each of their capitals, they are established seemingly in deference to the wishes so often and so earnestly pressed upon them by our officers, rather than from any real appreciation of the blessings and advantages they are calculated to afford.

Years of comparative peace, however, have induced great changes, and the people of these States at length appear reconciled to the fact that idleness is unremunerative, and will conduce little towards their own personal interests; hence I venture to think that the poorness of the results now shown is not altogether disheartening; inasmuch as the main difficulty, a beginning has been effected.

152. The subject of education in Haraotie has received more attention in the Boondee State than in Kotah or Jhallawar.

The Maharao Rajah himself evinces interest in the spread of knowledge. His Highness is a good Sanscrit and Hindee scholar, and is well versed in vernacular literature generally; he possesses also more than a superficial knowledge on many scientific subjects.

In most instances the Boondee Durbar are peculiarly jealous of breaking through established custom, but in the matter of education this Chief takes a more liberal view than is generally adopted by Native Chieftains. His Highness is sensible enough to encourage it amongst the female members of his own family, and the ladies of the zenana have been taught to read and write.

153. I trust ere long this important subject will receive the attention it merits in all these principalities.

The following Table will show the number of schools at present established in Haraotie :—

States.	Number of Schools maintained by the State.		Number of Teachers.	Average daily attendance.
Boondee	41	Sanscrit.	41	352
	9	Persian.	9	99
Kotah	1	Sanscrit.	1	31
	1	Persian.	1	43
Jhallawar	1	Sanscrit.	1	Not given.
	1	Hindee.	1	
	1	Persian.	1	
Total ...	55	Total ...	55	525

154. In addition to the above there exists in every village or town of any consequence throughout these districts one or more schools for the instruction of Hindee, which are supported by private contributions, and fairly attended. These institutions are independent of State assistance. The Brahmins and Bunyas mainly support them, and the object in view is to afford a boy sufficient knowledge to enable him to keep accounts.

155. On a recent opportunity I explained to the Maharao of Kotah that the Chiefs of Meywar and Jeypore had established at their respective capitals schools for the instruction of girls, and that the measure was one which would afford our Government much pleasure to see adopted by other Chiefs. His Highness expressed his readiness to institute a school of this kind at Kotah, and I hope in my next Report to be able to intimate, not only its establishment, but its success.

156. The difficulty of securing the services of qualified instructors is no mean one in this part of India.

The Ajmere school of course turns out many pupils well fitted for such a life, but they naturally seek employment under Government, with the prospective advantages of a pension, and salaries must be proportionately high to induce them to accept service in Native States, which is always more or less of a precarious tenure.

Some little time ago I was desirous myself to open a small children's school in the Civil Bazar at Deolie, and applied for the services of a teacher on a salary of Rupees 20 a month, fair remuneration I should have imagined for the labours of rudimentary instruction. I was unsuccessful, however, apparently because the employment was not under our Government, the applicant being perfectly willing to accept the proposed terms, but unwilling to forego the chance of qualifying for a pension. I hope ere long to be more fortunate.

Jails.

157. The jail accommodation in Haraotie is miserably bad. The Boondee prison has hitherto been a disgrace to the State, but I am happy to say the Maharao Rajah has lately consented to accommodate criminals in a building more suited to human requirements.

The Kotah jail is better, but very far from what it should be, and I hope the Maharao may shortly be induced to build a suitable one.

At Jhallawar some little attention has been paid to the subject; and though there remains large room for improvement, this State is considerably in advance of others. The jail established at this capital is small, but it is built with some little regard to requirements, and is kept clean.

A sum of Rupees 1,200 has been recently sanctioned by the Meywar Durbar for the construction of a small jail at Jehazpore, and will shortly be constructed.

Dispensaries.

158. It being within the province of the Superintendent of Dispensaries in Rajpootana, to whom periodical Returns are forwarded, to furnish statistical data regarding the medical institutions under his charge, I will confine my remarks to a few general observations.

159. The so-called dispensary at the Boondee capital little deserves the name, nor do I think Dr. Lownds enumerates it amongst his charges.

A Native doctor is certainly entertained, and a small room is utilized for dispensing Native drugs, but the attendance, as far as I can gather, is quite nominal; no Returns are submitted; nor has any attempt hitherto been made to introduce European medicines or treatment.

The Maharao Rajah has recently promised to follow the example of other Princes, and to establish at his capital a proper medical institution, a promise which, I trust, may be fulfilled.

160. Kotah has recently laboured under the serious disadvantage of having an inefficient Native practitioner in charge of the dispensary, and this large city has consequently derived but little benefit from its establishment. I have on several occasions brought the subject to the notice of the Maharao, but His Highness appeared disinclined to the removal of the Native doctor. On my recent visit to Kotah, however, I received an official communication from Dr. Lownds upon the subject of this man's incompetency, and its deleterious effects on the success of the dispensary, which in so large a city should, if fairly managed, be the means of affording an incalculable amount of good. I again spoke to the Chief upon the subject, and I am glad to say His Highness consented to the Native doctor's removal. The services of a Native doctor who has for many years served in the Erinpoorah Irregular Force, and has been very strongly recommended by his medical superiors, have been applied for, and I am sanguine the change will be marked by appreciable results.

161. The condition of the dispensary maintained in the Jhallawar capital stands out in very pleasing contrast to the Kotah institution, and this is most easily accounted for by recording that the Native doctor, Mahomed Naheem Khan, is as zealous as his brother practitioner at Kotah is the reverse.

I cannot speak too highly of this excellent official, who, in spite of corporeal infirmities, and the fact of his being a Mahomedan in the midst of a Hindoo population, evinces an energy and interest in the good work imposed upon him, which has won for him the respect and confidence of all classes. Dr. Lownds will, I think, acknowledge that the Jhallawar dispensary is most creditably superintended, and it affords me great pleasure to bring Native doctor Mahomed Naheem Khan's services to the favourable notice of superior authority.

162. Shortly after my appointment to this Agency Assistant Surgeon DeFabeck, in medical charge, expressed a desire to establish a small dispensary in the Civil Bazar at Deolie, and feeling convinced that, from the geographical position of Deolie, the centre of a circle from which radiate as many as four Native States and a portion of British Ajmere, such an institution, if attended with fair success, would prove an inestimable boon to the people, I was only too glad to submit the proposition, which was approved.

163. The dispensary involves a monthly expenditure of Rupees 60, which is borne by the surrounding States; and Government have sanctioned a donation of Rupees 500 for the construction of a suitable building. Hitherto great inconvenience has been experienced for the want of one; but the results have nevertheless been most encouraging, and in excess of expectation. Many serious operations have been performed, and patients have travelled long distances to seek relief at its doors.

Success is entirely attributable to the exertions of Dr. DeFabeck, without whom the project could not have been accomplished; I would here express my acknowledgments for his services gratuitously afforded.

Post Office.

164. Government post offices are established at Deolie, Boondee, Kotah, and Jhalra Patun. The mails arrive most irregularly, and there is a very general feeling that the establishment of runners on the postal lines passing through Haraotie is too small to ensure regularity.

165. Dâks from the North-Western Provinces reach Deolie *viâ* Jeypore and Tonk, and pass on through Boondee to Kotah, Jhallawar, and Malwa, the extreme uncertainty with which these arrive renders it impossible to count upon their advent without giving a margin of at least 12 hours in fair weather. Mails from the Western Presidency for the most part reach us *viâ* the British Cantonment of Nusseerabad, situated about 56 miles from Deolie.

166. In 1865 I did myself the honor to point out to the Postmaster General, North-Western Provinces, the inconvenience experienced by the residents at this station from the non-receipt of letters till long after they were legitimately due. The average time the mails took from Nusseerabad to Deolie was 18 hours in dry weather, or little more than the average marching rate of a regiment, certainly half as long again as need be; and as nearly the whole of the correspondence between this part of India with the Bombay Presidency and England passes this way, a delay of six hours in a journey short of 60 miles becomes a serious matter.

167. I informed the Postmaster General that the Inspecting Postmaster of the division attributed this irregularity to the paucity of runners on the line, there being two men allowed at each staion there, whilst three and four are the complement, I am informed, generally

sanctioned elsewhere. The Postmaster General did not feel himself justified in recommending an increase to the number, and consequently the inconvenience remains, as the same runner has to take both parcels and letters.

168. I have alluded to this, because the people of these States do not apparently avail themselves of the British Post Offices as much as they might do. They are certainly not entirely dependent on them. Kotah being the largest capital, I will explain what the arrangements are as existing there.

169. A Bamnee Dâk is maintained by the energy of a few individuals, who have formed themselves into a company wholly independent of any aid or assistance from the bankers. This dâk maintains a communication with the capitals of Boondee, Tonk, and Jeypore to the north, and Jhallawar, Joora, Rutlam, &c., to the south, but its main object is to carry letters to such places as are unconnected by any British postal line.

170. It is daily despatched at dawn, and received about 8 A. M. For every letter posted to any distance one pice is paid, and half a pice for adjacent stations. It does not travel faster than the Government mail, but has the advantage of communicating with certain places by a direct line, whilst the other reaches them by a circuitous route; its maintenance is sufficient proof of support.

The advantages of sending registered letters through our Post Offices are, however, thoroughly appreciated.

171. The following Table will serve to show the British postal arrangements presently existing in this neighbourhood, and under the circumstances of the case I venture to hope they may be rendered more efficient by an increase of one additional runner at each station. The cost would be inconsiderable, and the advantages very great, whilst there is every reason to believe that much of the correspondence now transmitted through the Bamnee Dâks would be sent through our own Post Offices, in which case the increase to the postal revenue would cover the small additional outlay required to afford these lines the same advantages enjoyed by others :—

From	To	Number of Miles.	Number of Runners.	Number of Chowkees.	Average Number of Runners per Chowkee.	Remarks.
Jeypore ...	Tonk	...	...	...	...	The numbers here given denote establishment for both letter and parcel mails.
Tonk	Deolie	36	12	6	2	
Nusseerabad ...	Deolie	56	18	9	2	
Deolie... ...	Kotah	51	17	8	2	
Kotah	Jhallawar ...	50	16	8	2	
Jhallawar ...	Shajapore ...	90	24	12	2	
	Total...	283	87	43	2	

172. No mail robberies occurred within the limits of the Haraotie Agency during the official year 1865-66.

On the 8th November 1866 the Government parcel mail was plundered in Boondee territory, and an award of Rupees 487-11-3 has been made against that State in consequence. The plunderers were not apprehended.

On the 6th January 1867 the Government parcel mail was robbed near the city of Patun in Jhallawar, and a claim has been made for compensation amounting to Rupees 136-2. The case is under investigation.

173. Three cases of mail robbery have occurred in the Tonk State during the period under review; these do not properly come into the Report on Haraotie, but are alluded to, as they were investigated by this Court as the nearest Political Agency. The first occurred on the 2nd of January 1865, when the Government letter mail was stopped by a powerful gang of robbers, one of whom was apprehended and sent to Jeypore for trial.

The second was an attack on the letter mail on the 18th August 1865. No claim was preferred for compensation. The Tonk State was fined for the loss of the dâk runners' property.

On the 9th April 1866 the Government parcel mail was plundered near Maindwas in Tonk, and traced into the Jeypore State, against which an award of Rupees 295-11 has been made.

174. The Nawab of Tonk assures me that he has now established chowkees at intervals of one koss each for the protection of the line. The Boondee and Kotah Durbars are adopting a similar measure.

Boundaries, 1865-66.

175. The interesting and important Hinglazgurh case *Kunnee* versus *Golabpoora*, so long pending between Indore and Kotah, was this year settled by me in conjunction with Captain Luard of the Central India Agency on behalf of the Maharajah Holkar; the attached map* drawn by that officer will illustrate the new frontier line laid down.

This case had become important in consequence of the great length of time which had elapsed since the ground was first disputed; and also from the re-opening of the question during the past six years after a settlement had been effected in 1837 by the Political Agents of Kotah and Mehidpore. It was also a misfortune that year after year circumstances prevented representatives of the two Agencies meeting on the border until the cold weather of 1865-66, when this troublesome question was finally disposed of.

176. The boundary in dispute extended over a distance of nearly three miles, a large portion of which was thick jungle, and its adjustment might have been a matter of far more complicated trouble, but for a happy coincidence.

177. The records of the Indore Agency and of this Office were destroyed in the mutiny, but at Mount Aboo some of the documents

* Marked B.

regarding the original settlement were forthcoming, and amongst others a sketch map of the ground, which, though a very rough outline, enabled us to see the direction of the line of demarcation and greatly facilitated our labours. We were thus enabled in a few days to fix the sites of the pillars, which have been built, and to define a boundary which had been warmly contested in 1837, and after smouldering some five and twenty years had again burst into flame.

The ground was surveyed and mapped by Captain Luard, to whom every acknowledgment is due for the zeal and energy he evinced towards a speedy settlement of this long standing dispute.

Boundaries, 1866-67.

178. The "Kala Mal" land dispute, long pending between Boondee and Indurgurh, was settled in March last. This case also was one which had for many years been the source of much ill-feeling between the contending parties; and it has apparently been the object of Boondee to use every means in her power to postpone its adjustment. I have already reported on the vexatious course pursued by this Durbar in the matter.

179. It has recently been proposed that opportunity should be taken of the Gwalior and Central India Topographical Survey party working in the vicinity to define the boundary between Scindhia's territory and Kotah and Jhallawar, and to have permanent marks built wherever the demarcation is not naturally defined. To effect this it has been suggested that Agents on the part of the Chiefs concerned should accompany the survey party to point out and assist them in marking the boundary. Agreeably to the orders of the Governor General's Agent, to whom reference was made, the Chiefs of Kotah and Jhallawar have been addressed on the subject.

Military Force.

180. An attempt is made to give an idea, in the following Table, of the strength of the forces in the States of Haraotie:—

States.	Ordnance.		Cavalry.	Infantry.	Police and Sebundies.
	Field Guns.	Gunners.			
1.—Boondee	12	50	500	1,500	2,000
2.—Kotah	20	175	1,500	4,000	3,000
3.—Jhallawar	15	135	500	2,500	4,000
Total ...	47	360	2,500	8,000	9,000

181. Under the head of cavalry, mounted men of all descriptions have been included. They are for the most part wretchedly horsed and entirely undrilled; indeed, with the exception of one squadron of cavalry, utilized as a body-guard at Kotah, and a weak regiment of infantry at Jhallawar, the troops in Haraotie can hardly be described as an organized military body. They are irregularly paid, miserably clad, badly armed, and very indifferently drilled.

182. The sebundies enumerated are chiefly employed in garrisoning the various forts. Many of them receive but two and three rupees a month, and no attempt is made to give them uniform or to set them up as soldiers. The services of the infantry are in these States invariably used for purposes of sport, and they are brave and daring shikarees, which would render them no mean opponents as skirmishers and sharpshooters.

183. In addition to the details furnished in the above Table, the seven Kotree fiefs of Kotah, noted on the margin, may be said to maintain an aggregate force numbering some 1,500 infantry and police, 300 horsemen, and 20 guns (nearly all wall pieces). These are, if possible, less efficiently equipped and taught than the troops already described.

Indurgurh, Khatowlie, Gainta, Peepulda, Kurwar, Bhulwun, Anturda.

184. As elsewhere in Rajpootana, hill forts and village gurhies abound; some of the former, such as Indurgurh, Sheregurh, Ajeetgurh, and Shahabad, are amongst the strongest.

Forts.

185. Kotah may be described as a first class fortress, mounting 30 guns in good repair. The forts of Gagrone and Sheregurh have each a battery of 10 guns, some of them out of order and insignificant, and a garrison consisting of two nishans of a hundred men each, and from 400 to 500 sebundies.

186. In Boondee, besides the strong fortifications round the palace and town of the capital, containing some 20 guns in a fair state of repair, the only strongholds of consequence are those of Ajeetgurh and Nainwah, the former situated in the hills, the latter in the plains. Nainwah has already been described amongst the towns of this principality; the fort contains about four serviceable wall pieces. I have not yet had an opportunity of visiting Ajeetgurh. Some little jealousy is still evinced in exposing the interior of these strongholds to view.

187. The hill fortress of Shahabad is very strongly situated; it contains some 8 or 10 mounted guns.

Koomulmair, better known perhaps as Khailwarrah, is another noteworthy fort in the Jhallawar State. It is closely surrounded with thick jungle, and mounts the same number of cannon.

At Jhalra Patun a fort has been in course of construction for some years, but no guns are mounted on its yet unfinished walls.

188. By the fifth Article of the Treaty of 1838 with Kotah, that State is bound to maintain a contingent force to be paid from its revenues, and the sixth Article of the same restricted its liabilities to three lakhs per annum, which were subsequently reduced to two lakhs, the sum now paid. In 1840 a force was raised under British Officers, and called the Kotah Contingent, which was maintained until the great mutiny of 1857, when it proved faithless. During the latter part of that year it was deemed politic to raise a corps of Meenas, the predatory character of whom is described in the Report on the districts wherein they reside. The Meena

British Contingencies.

Battalion now forms the infantry portion of the Deolie Irregular Force, the formation of which is precisely similar as to numbers and detail to that station at Erinpoorah, but for easy reference the following Table showing the strength and annual cost is given :—

189. Strength and cost of the Deolie Irregular Force, which occupies the place of the mutinied Kotah Contingent :—

	British Officers.				Native Officers.								Remarks.
	Commandant.	2nd in Command and Squadron Officer.	Adjutant.	Medical Officer.	Rissaldars and Subadars.	Jemadars.	Duffadars and Havildars.	Nishanburdars.	Naiks.	Trumpeters, Drummers, and Buglers.	Lancers.	Infantry Privates.	
Cavalry	...	...	...	...	2	3	18	2	...	2	140	...	
	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	The pay of each sowar per mensem is Rupees 25; that of sepoy Rupees 6.
Infantry	...	...	...	...	8	8	40	...	40	16	...	600	
Total ...	1	1	1	1	10	11	58	2	40	18	140	600	

Annual cost including carriage, contingent charges, officers' pay and establishments in round numbers is Rupees 1,78,000.

Timber Resources.

190. A list of trees indigenous to Haraotie was furnished with this Office letter, No. 46-29G., dated 17th May 1866.

For easy reference a copy of it is marked C., and attached.

The asterisk denotes that the tree is common.

Ebony, it will be observed, is enumerated, but the quantity is very limited.

Mineral Resources.

191. The mineral resources of Haraotie as yet discovered are inconsiderable. There are some iron mines in work in Boondee, and the metal is smelted largely; the method of working it is primitive as may be supposed, but ductile products are yielded notwithstanding.

The hills contain marble, slate, and slate-granite, and much of the latter is used for building purposes.

Conclusion.

192. In conclusion, I would solicit indulgent consideration for any shortcomings which may appear in this my first Report on the States of Haraotie.

(Sd.) A. N. Bruce,
Political Agent.

C.

List of Trees indigenous to that part of Rajpootana commonly known as Haraotie, embracing the States of Boondee, Kotah, and Jhallawar

Assapala.....Botanical name unknown, a very tall tree, with good girth, and well adapted for shipping purposes; by no means common.

* Nim ... ... (Melia Azedirachta.)
Babool ... (Arbua Rox.)
Sagaun ... (Teak) very few trees.
Goondee ... (Cordia.)
Mulberry.
* Kirnee... ... (Mimisops Kauki.)
Jamoon ... (Eugenia Jambolana.)
Mango.
* Mowa ... ... (Bassia latifolia.)
Moulsirree ... (Mimisops eleugi.)
* Bur ... ... (Ficus Bengallasis.)
* Peepul... ... (Ficus Religiosa.)
* Plum ... ... (Lizyphus jujuba.)
Kultul ... ... Jack (Artacarpus integrifolen, Roxb.)
* Dhow ... ... (Lythrum fruticosum.)
* Kheir ... ... (A small strong tree, from which the district known as Kheirar is named.)
* Dhak ... ... (Butea fendosa.)
Umuttas ... (Cassia festula.)
* Tamarind.
Taindoo... ... Ebony.
Amla ... ... (Phyllanthus Emlicu.)
* Khijoor... ... Date.
Goolur ... ... (Ficus glomerata, Roxb.)
Bhurrul... ... Monkey Jack.
Sissoo ... ... (Dalbergia Sissoo, Roxb.)
Kumrukh ... (Averrhao Carambola.)
* Beil ... ... (Cartœva Ægle Marmlos.)
Kechnar ... (Banahinia Variegata.)
Saimull... ... (Bombax) Keptaphyllum.
* Dhamun ... A moderate sized tree, the wood of which is pliant.
* Siris ... ... (Mimosa.)
* Keith ... ... (Feronia Elephantum.)
* Burnah ... ... (Cartœva Tapia.)
* Bamboo.
Cocoanut ... A few trees only.
Kuddum ... (Nanclea Orientalis.)
* Chiromijee ... (Chiromija Tapidu.)
Harsingar ... (Weeping Nyclanthes.)

Tabular General Statement showing the working of the Haraotie International Court of Vakeels,

FOR THE OFFICIAL YEARS 1865-66 AND 1866-67

Official year.	Number of cases on file at close of preceding year.	Number of cases instituted.	Estimated value of property plundered.	*Amount of compensation awarded for property plundered, and against what State.*						Total amount paid.	Number of people killed.	Number of people wounded.	Number convicted.	Number acquitted.	Number died.	Number escaped.	Number of cases transferred.	Number of cases amicably adjusted out of Court.	*Amount of blood-money awarded, and against what State.*						Total amount paid.	Average duration of cases.	Number of cases disposed of.	Number of cases on file at close of the year.
				Meywar.	Jeypore.	Boondee.	Kotah.	Tonk.	Jhallawar.										Meywar.	Jeypore.	Boondee.	Kotah.	Tonk.	Jhallawar.				
			Rs. a. p.	*Rs. a. p.*	*Rs. a. p.*	*Rs. a. p.*	*Rs. a. p.*	*Rs. a. p.*	*Rs. a. p.*	*Rs. a. p.*									*Rs.*	*Rs.*	*Rs.*	*Rs.*	*Rs.*	*Rs.*	*Rs.*	*Days.*		
1865-66	7	94	62,064 4 0	527 2 0	2,921 3 3	1,815 11 6	9,930 12 6	384 1 2	1,037 9 4	16,616 7 9	1	4	13	6	...	...	1	3	...	...	275	...	...	...	275	$34\frac{8}{9}\frac{1}{2}$	92	9
1866-67	9	113	26,652 7 6	1,329 5 0	632 6 0	1,969 11 9	5,797 0 4	37 13 2	952 13 0	10,719 1 3	2	3	9	12	...	...	1	4	300	...	150	...	...	...	450	$60\frac{3}{9}\frac{5}{4}$	94	28

REMARKS.—Each case is furnished in detail in the Returns submitted quarterly to the Governor General's Agent.

The difficulty in obtaining the presence of witnesses renders it difficult to reduce the average duration of cases lower than two months. By Rule 35 it is laid down that if a witness "be a resident of Rajpootana, the time allowed for his appearance should not exceed three months."

(Sd.) A. N. BRUCE,
Political Agent.

Report on the Purriar Meenas of Meywar, Jeypore, and Boondee, 1865-66 and 1866-67.

I now proceed to report on the Meena districts of Meywar, Jeypore, and Boondee, whereof the Political Agent in Haraotie holds the office of Superintendent.

The Purriar Meenas.

2. The Purriar branch of the Meena tribe is for the most part located in a district to the south, and in the immediate vicinity of Deolie, the head-quarters of the Haraotie Agency.

The Kherar.

3. It extends in an easterly direction from Jehazpore, a town of considerable size in the Meywar State, to the distance of about 12 miles, and is commonly called the Meena Kherar. The derivational meaning of the word Kherar would appear doubtful. Some say it is so called from a species of brushwood named "Kher," which abounds in great profusion there; while the inhabitants themselves assert it to be simply the plural of "Khera," their own denomination for a village or township. Some 14 of these hamlets, separated by low narrow ridges, are scattered over the Kherar, which would seem to be naturally fertile and easily irrigated.

Origin of the tribe.

4. The Purriar Meenas are said to be a cross between the Purriar Rajpoot of Mundore in Marwar and the aboriginal Meenas of Rajpootana, who are divided into 38 clans or families. The tribe profess to be of Rajpoot origin; they trace their descent back to the celebrated Nahar Rao, King of Mundore, whose son Shoma married a Meena woman, came to settle in the Kherar, and became the progenitor of its present inhabitants, and of those members of the tribe scattered over the adjacent Meena districts of Ajmere, Jeypore, and Boondee.*

5. Shoma had three sons, Rama, Gunga, and Bagha, from whom sprang the three clans of the Purriar branch. They are worshippers of Maha Deo, whom they usually allude to as "Adam Baba" or Father Adam.

Character and habits.

6. The Purriar Meenas have inherited much of the pride, spirit, and superstition of their Rajpoot descent, and they are equally ignorant and unlettered; as a plundering class they have ever been conspicuous as daring and expert robbers. By no tribe has the crime of dacoity been more systematically pursued as a profession, and the late Sir William Sleeman, than whom few had a more intimate knowledge of his subject, pronounced the Meenas to be "irreclaimable."

7. As with the Bheel so with the Meena, plunder was to each the charm of his existence, and as such was it held until very lately.

8. The Purriar Meenas are an athletic and brave race; tall, handsome, and pleasing in address; obedient to their leaders, and sensible

* This would fix the date of their advent about the 12th century A. D., which is confirmed by an inscription in a temple at the Kherar village of Oomur. Nearly every village within a circuit of 50 miles of the Kherar contains two or three families of Purriar Meenas.

of kindness; but they are blood-thirsty and revengeful. Private pique is almost invariably vindicated by arson, cattle-lifting, or indeed any aggressive measure calculated to ruin or injure the object of their displeasure.

9. Their principal food consists of cakes of unleavened bread, made with the flour of Indian corn, with herbs and boiled vegetables. They eat largely of meat of all kinds, save that of the cow and the wild boar, of which, strange to relate, though more appreciated by other Meena tribes, the Purriar branch holds to be sacred. The following is the tradition which accounts for this peculiarity:—

10. A Purriar Prince's sister was espoused by a scion of the house of Marwar; the brothers-in-law quarrelled, and the Purriar slew his adversary. The widow, ere committing herself to the flames with her husband's body, pronounced a curse upon her brother, which caused his limbs and body to rot, and he seemed likely to die.

11. When out hunting one day in the neighbourhood of Pokur near Ajmere, he raised a boar and gave chase. The animal rushed into the lake, and the Prince pursued, till falling off his steed he with difficulty reached the shore and the pig escaped. He found, however, that his bath had cleansed him of disease, and imagining that some favourable deity had assumed the form of a wild boar and purposely led him into the healing waters, he imprecated the course from which he had been freed on any who should in future slay a boar.

12. There are too many concurrent testimonies to this legend to admit of a doubt that it is founded on fact. On the one hand, there is the temple to the boar at Pokur; and on the other, the reverence with which the boar is regarded by the Purriars, as also their two great oaths,—"May I eat boar's flesh" and "May my body putrefy."

13. The Purriar Meenas indulge freely in spirits, opium, and tobacco.

14. Their principal weapons are the bow, spear, and kuttar; frequently called upon to use them, there is little wonder they are skilful with all. The kuttar, or dagger, about a foot long, three inches wide at the hilt, and gradually fining to a point, is a formidable weapon in the hands of a Meena, and one blow or thrust fairly delivered is always fatal; many of them possess matchlocks, and make excellent practice. With the bow they are very expert, and this primitive weapon in their hands is used with deadly effect. In two instances during the rebellion a single arrow proved fatal to a troop-horse.

Marriage laws.

15. Like the Rajpoot the Purriar Meena cannot marry a female of his own clan, but may marry any of the daughters of the numerous aboriginal classes of Meenas. He considers himself, however, superior to these, and feels it a degradation to allow his daughter to ally herself with one of inferior blood.

16. With a Rajpoot the principal expenditure on marriage falls upon the bride's father, but the Meena receives payment for his daughter, a price which varies in accordance with the decision of a punchayut by which the contracting parties must abide.

17. Meena women frequently marry twice, but a widow cannot marry into the tribe to which she belonged; and if there be any children

by the first marriage, they remain with the father's relations, who also appropriate the price paid for the widow on her second marriage.

18. A man may marry his elder brother's widow, but not the widow of a younger brother, *i. e.*, the wife cannot ascend, but may descend; the real cause of this is not known, the only reason assigned is, that an elder brother looks upon the wives of his younger brother in the light of daughters.

Female infanticide.

19. This tribe was, and up to a very recent date has been, distinguished from the rest of the families of Meenas by a very general observance of what they regarded as the command of Heaven to destroy their female children. Consequent upon their steady obedience to the Divine injunction many of the Purriars, by reason of the paucity of the other sex, and the expenses attendant upon procuring wives, remained unmarried.

20. For very many years the earnest endeavours of the British Government have been directed towards the suppression of this revolting crime amongst them, and by displaying a deep interest in the success of such instructions as have been issued from time to time at our instance by the various Princes concerned much has been effected, but it will be some time ere their subjects contract that heart-felt and cordial abomination of the practice necessary to secure its thorough eradication.

21. There can be litttle doubt a Native Chief should, in his own interests, co-operate towards a result so desirable.

22. It is an ascertained fact that when once the Meena has tasted the joys of domesticity, he is capable of strong attachment to home; and though it would seem impossible to credit sentiments of affection, or aught but the most blunted and hardened feelings to the man who can deliberately destroy the helpless infant born to him, yet a Meena has been known to make great personal sacrifices for his children when they have been spared long enough to become familiar to him; and though instincts of humanity should dictate to the man what nature has so clearly implanted in the animal towards its young, there may be a little to extenuate in the fact that ignorant superstition and false pride have been instilled into the Meena from his birth, and he is led to perpetrate a foully inhuman act by the stern necessities of custom, when experience has shown us that time alone was wanted to develope within him natural parental affection.

23. A lawless tribe by nature, turbulent, independent, and vagabond, in their habits would, moreover, assuredly be under greater control by having families of children.

24. So long as infanticide remained a custom, a wife amongst the Meenas was an expensive luxury; hence arose many disputes of breaches of marriage contracts, which frequently led to acts of aggression and incendiarism, and this high price often compelled a Meena, who was bent on marriage, to turn plunderer to realize the means.

25. The Purriar Meenas inhabiting the wild tracts in the vicinity of Deolie have ever been more addicted to infanticide than Rajpoots; and they have had recourse to it in the belief that woman born in their tribe are fated only to bring calamity on them. In justification of the practice they plead the authority of a suttee who commanded it

on ascending the pile, and of the goddess Bhowanee herself who enjoined it. Accordingly, amongst this tribe more violent opposition to repressive measures was to be expected.

26. In 1836, in the small Meena village of Papeala near Jehazpore, there were 22 boys; not a single daughter had been allowed to live; every Meena of the village openly professing he had destroyed his female offspring at their birth!

27. Again, in 1860, on a census being taken of all the Meena villages in the vicinity, the percentage of girls to boys on a Meena population of 3,195 in the Meywar District was 28·88; in the Jeypore District, on a population numbering 1,461 Meenas, 29·60; and in the Boondee District, a population of 749 Meenas, the percentage rose to 53·23. The Tables noted on the margin show the results which were then registered; the numerical superiority of boys over girls amongst the Meena population of the same villages is very marked when compared with the registration of other classes, and the discrepancy, I fancy, can only be accounted for in one way.

PURRIAR MEENAS.

No. of Villages.	Name of District.	*Adults.*		*Children under 12.*		Percentage.
		Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	
17	Meywar...	1,249	875	831	240	28·88
16	Jeypore...	604	393	358	106	29·60
11	Boondee..	243	198	201	107	53·23
44	Total ...	2,096	1,466	1,390	453	32·58

HINDOOS OF ALL CLASSES.

No. of Villages.	Name of District.	*Adults.*		*Children under 12.*		Percentage.
		Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	
17	Meywar...	1,289	1,118	815	495	60·73
16	Jeypore...	1,853	1,643	1,240	869	70·08
11	Boondee..	718	579	414	320	79·71
44	Total ...	3,860	3,340	2,469	1,684	62·02

28. Since 1860 the Returns show a steady improvement, and from enquiries recently instituted by me the percentage in the Meywar Kherar during the past six years has risen, I observe, from 28·88 to something over 50. In my next Report I will furnish Tables.

29. Monthly Statements of births and deaths are now submitted by the district authorities to this Office.

30. The following tradition is related by the Meenas in justification of the crime of their ancestors:—Shalla, a descendant of Shama, from whom the Purriar branch sprang, was a holy man, and paid great reverence to his deity, to whom he offered himself a sacrifice. Maha Deo was gratified, and ordered him to pronounce his own reward. Shalla said "let my offspring be as numerous as the hairs of my head;" and Maha Deo having intimated to him that sons should be born to him by tens, he severed his head from his body, and it fell in front of the god. At this moment Shalla's daughter unwittingly entered the temple, and her shadow falling across her father's headless trunk so enraged Maha Deo at her intrusion that he cursed her, saying, "henceforth shall it be lawful for a Purriar Meena to destroy his daughters."

31. Poverty, and the exorbitant expenditure which in former days characterized the marriage ceremonies of other infanticidal tribes, cannot be urged by the Purriar Meenas as an excuse for committing the crime; for, as already shown, they receive money for their daughters, and if

they choose so to do, there is no difficulty in marrying them, for they are eagerly sought after by the 38 families of Meenas into which they may marry.

32. Pride and superstition must therefore be the causes.

33. Amongst them the term father-in-law is one of reproach, and the man who bears that relationship is, from the wedding day, looked upon with contempt, and treated as an inferior by the bridegroom, whilst it is at the same time considered a disgrace should a girl after attaining maturity remain unmarried. In either case the father's sense of pride is endangered.

34. I may relate the following which happened to a Medical Officer who was on most friendly terms with the Meenas, essentially regarded as a dear friend, and consulted by them on what are ordinarily considered the most delicate matters. A Meena deplored to my friend the non-success of his efforts to obtain a suitable husband for his daughter, a pretty girl of marriageable age; the father then proposed to send her to reside with him, as he knew she would be treated well in his house, and that if she remained at home, she would certainly fall into discreditable habits: the offer was, of course, declined; but the incident illustrates the Meena idea on the subject.

Suttee.

35. Suttee is seldom or never practised amongst the Purriar Meenas, or indeed by any of the lower classes of Hindoos. Instances now and again will of course occur, but many years have elapsed since the perpetration of the crime in the Kherar.

Witchcraft.

36. Whilst a superstitious belief in witchcraft is common to all Rajpootana, the people of Meywar are generally considered to have evinced a greater credence in its mysteries than the inhabitants of other States; and the Jehazpore Meenas, subjects of the Meywar principality, have deeply imbibed the same ideas. A few years ago it was by no means an uncommon occurrence for a wretched woman to be accused of sorcery, and unable satisfactorily to refute the charge to be subjected to the torture known as witch-swinging, that is to say, the victim was depended from a tree head downwards, and the rest of the torture is sufficiently described by its designation.

37. Our efforts to eradicate this barbarity have been strenuous, and, to all outward appearance, doubtless effective; but however much we may deprecate the cruelty of torturing a fellow being to death on a supposition that she is endowed with a limited supernatural power, and let our treatment of the perpetrators be what it may, time must elapse ere we can, with any confidence, feel the evil to be entirely suppressed.

38. It is difficult to make the people exert themselves a whit more than fear of offending our prejudices will induce them to do; apparently they will subscribe to our wishes, but it is doubtful whether aught is really done save the exercise of greater concealment in the act.

39. In a priest-ridden country like India, full of absurd inconsistencies and superstitions, many of which are held with such tenacity of belief as to induce the forfeiture of life rather than the idea, it is almost a hopeless task to expect a man educated in such a way to

ignore a superstition whereby he believes himself enabled to avert sickness and other earthly calamities. Much as education has done towards civilizing European countries, superstitious beliefs are entertained, and superstitious forms are still kept up to a marvellous extent. The Germans are at this present observant of imaginary signs and warnings, and will quote legends in support of the same, which are as remarkable for their absurdity, as many of those related and credited in this country; and if such can be said in respect of Western nations, much patience is required with the people of India in this matter as in all others.

40. Having touched upon the origin of the Purriar Meenas inhabiting these districts, and having endeavoured briefly to describe their habits and their customs, my Report would be incomplete did I not allude to the pacification of the country.

41. We can easily understand that when dealing with predatory classes like the Meenas, hitherto untrammelled by any laws, acknowledging no Government, and taught from the cradle to set every principle but that of violence at defiance, it must prove a very laborious and delicate task, even by the application of the wisest and gentlest measures, to replace with the forbearance of a civilized race that desire for feud and that lust for unlawful possessions, which is common to all barbarous tribes.

Pacification of the districts.

42. Prior to 1860 the Meena Kherar was dangerously unsafe for travellers, who could only adopt that route by banding together for mutual protection, and even then were life and property most precarious.

43. In that year the Chiefs of Meywar, Jeypore, and Boondee planned and executed a campaign against their lawless Meena subjects. Their various villages were besieged; very many exterminated, and the survivors conditionally permitted to reside in the Kherar. The result was encouraging, for doubtless the reformation of such a people by kindness and consideration can only be effected when their respect is mixed with a wholesome dread of consequences.

44. But success must not be altogether attributed to force, far from it, the way had in a great measure been paved by means less muscular; and hundreds of the Meena population inhabiting the Kherar when it was attacked felt they had more to lose by the defeat of the Raj troops than by their success.

Meena Battalion.

45. To such a feeling may be ascribed the wisdom of having just before organized a corps like the Meena battalion, affording to many an honest livelihood. In proportion to our success in bending them gradually to our sway, and by giving a new aim, character, and interest to their existence (as we did to the Bheels in Meywar) we shall soothe their passions and inculcate habits of discipline, industry, and sobriety; thus obtaining great security against future irruption, and that constant disturbance of the public tranquillity which was the normal condition of the Meena Kherar prior to our efforts to ameliorate it.

46. The great wave of rebellion rolling through the length and breadth of Upper India in the memorable year of 1857 swept away with it an arm which had long upheld the glory and prestige of British

valour; and two of the finest local corps in Rajpootana, commanded by English officers, and composed of the three branches of the service, mutinied, and were effaced.

47. To replace one of these (the Kotah Contingent) the local Government conceived the happy idea which had proved so eminently successful in the Meywar Bheel Corps, *viz.*, to incorporate into our ranks, and thus from self-interest enlist the sympathies of another race whose hand up to that time had been raised against all others.

48. A period which reduced the influence of the paramount power to a minimum, a period when soldiers flung aside an allegiance which they and their forefathers had faithfully acknowledged for generations, a period, in short, when anarchy and rebellion reigned supreme, could not fail to prove a season of rich harvest to the predatory classes of India; and it was then that the Governor General's Agent deputed a British officer* to raise from the Kherar Districts a regiment of Meenas, thus offering to the tribe an incentive to live honestly at a time when their worst passions might reasonably have been aroused, and serious consequences apprehended from any indulgence of them.

49. The officer entrusted with this delicate task had formidable difficulties to contend with; he had to persuade a class hedged in by prejudices and superstitions to put aside the habits of a lifetime, customs which had become their second nature so to speak, and accept the responsibilities incident to a life of comparative restraint. By natives a scheme, be it what it may, is invariably met with suspicion and distrust at first, and time alone can dissipate these doubts.

50. To contend against such drawbacks Captain MacDonald had a difficult hand to play; his faith in the sepoy had but recently been rudely shaken by the disaffection of the regiment under his command, and he was now called upon to organize another composed of thieves and robbers. For some little time the men were kept together only by daily payments; they wore no uniform, and were armed with their own primitive weapons; constant desertions occurred, and as many recurrences to their former mode of life. But ten years have nearly elapsed, and the result of the measure instituted in 1857 to all who have seen the corps, which now constitutes the infantry portion of the Deolie Irregular Force, is too apparent to need further remark from me.

51. Such has been the effect of employment on the Purriar Meena, and by the exercise of judicious supervision and control this turbulent tribe have been induced to recognize the advantages of peace and good order, as compared with strife and dishonesty.

Rules in force for the preservation of order in Kherar.

52. A roll-call of all the male inhabitants is taken in every village morning and evening by the Thanadar or Jemadar, and no one leaves the place without sanction. No Meena is allowed to carry arms, and Raj troops are in the habit of patrolling the Kherar quietly and without exciting suspicion. By the adoption of these simple rules the Meenas connot leave their homes in any number without it being known, nor can they be absent for any length of time without good and sufficient cause.

* In the first instance his Assistant, Captain Forbes, who after a short time was succeeded by Captain, now Lieut.-Colonel, MacDonald, of the late Gwalior Contingent.

Concluding Remarks.

53. It is idle to suppose that the instincts of a second nature can be suppressed at will by a race to whom self-denial of any kind has been hitherto unknown, but crime has, without doubt, greatly diminished; infanticide is no longer an habitual custom; the tribe have in this part of India laid down the sword for the ploughshare, and have taken to husbandry zealously and kindly; their villages are comparatively neat and clean; and their general condition not only gives hope for improvement as time rolls on, but is an encouraging reward for those who may have striven to reduce them.

54. In conclusion, it affords me much pleasure to bring the following circumstances prominently to the notice of Government:—

55. The greater portion of the Meena Kherar here reported upon appertains to the Meywar State.

56. After its successful pacification in 1860 the Oodeypore Durbar, by way of punishing their lawless subjects, at the same time indemnifying themselves for expenses incurred thereby, fixed a heavy fine on each village concerned, and doubtless some measure of the kind was very desirable at that time. In July last, however, after a tour through the districts, I expressed to the Political Agent in Meywar my conviction that the fines then imposed were out of all proportion to the means of the people, and must press cruelly on them.

57. Villages yielding an annual revenue of Rupees 2,000 were fined upwards of thirty and forty thousand rupees, and the people, otherwise happy and contented, were disheartened in this matter. They had, comparatively speaking, put aside a life of lawless violence, and accepted peaceful occupations, but there is little cause for surprise they should have felt this pecuniary responsibility as an incubus hopelessly impossible to shake off; and such a feeling, I ventured to point out, must operate rather in favour of than against crime, for the Meenas could not but feel that their efforts to improve their villages would tend but little to increase their own personal comfort and interests.

58. Nor could I perceive any advantage to the Meywar Durbar in maintaining such a state of things. A moment's reflection would, I felt assured, convince the Maharana that there was little prospect of the money ever being paid, and the door was open for much extortion on the part of those sent to collect the fines. For example, a village unable to meet the demand would pay the Billadar to avert consequences; and the State suffered in reputation without even the poor equivalent of a money return.

59. Subsequently I was happy to find in conversation with Major Nixon that our views were coincident, and I have now the honor to record that the Maharana has graciously conceded to remit these extraordinary penalties.

60. The act is a graceful concession of a claim which it was impossible to exact in full, and it will be gratefully received by those of His Highness's subjects, who have had great difficulties to combat against.

(Sd.) A. N. Bruce,
Poltl. Supdt, Meena Districts,
and Poltl. Agent, Harautie.

SIROHI SUPERINTENDENCY REPORT.

From the Political Superintendent of Sirohi, to COLONEL W. F. EDEN, Governor General's Agent for the States of Rajpootana,—No. 312-15P., dated Moun Aboo, the 22nd April 1867.

I HAVE the honor to submit the following Report of the Sirohi State for the years 1865-66 and 1866-67, as called for in your letters marginally cited :—

No. 1410, dated 3rd December 1866.
No. 83, dated 22nd January 1867.

2. In 1854, at the request of the late Rao Sheo Singh, the British Government consented to undertake the general management of the State, then greatly involved in pecuniary difficulties.

For eleven years the Government, through one of its officers, exercised a general superintendence over its affairs, and on the 1st September 1865, after having liquidated the whole of the debts, made over to the present Chief, Oomeid Singh, the full administration of his territories, and a treasury containing Rupees 42,365.

3. During this period it had been the policy of our officers to abstain from interfering in internal affairs, save in so far as related to matters of finance. In this department, however, economy was enforced. In other respects, in the conduct of affairs and the appointment of Ministers, the Chief was left practically unfettered, interference being as a rule limited to the settlement of such questions as threatened to disturb the peace of the country.

Condition of the State on our making it over to the Rao.

But even with this measure of supervision the country had slowly but steadily improved. Cultivation had sprung up, and the sound of the Persian wheel was heard where for years the land had lain waste; the Bunya class no longer feared to dress well, or to expend on themselves and their homes the fruits of their industry in Guzerat and Bombay; and the merchant and the traveller again frequented the route through Sirohi, so long altogether avoided. Still the State was far from being in a satisfactory or healthy condition. The advance made had been but partial, and many of the embers of the old state of things still smouldered, materially retarding further progress.

4. To arrive at a true understanding of the state of the country, it is necessary to have some knowledge of its geographical features and inhabitants.

Account of the country.

5. Sirohi contains an area of some 3,024 square miles. In the centre but somewhat to the south is the almost isolated mountain of Aboo, rising in Guru Shikr to a summit of 5,700 feet above the level of the sea, and with a circumference at base of about 48 miles. North-east and south-west run low ranges, which may be said to divide the State into two not unequal parts. The western half, though everywhere broken by elevations of greater or less magnitude, is comparatively open and level, and consequently the more populated and the better cultivated. Dotted along this frontier are irregular groups of hills, situated for the most part in Marwar, though in some the watershed

forms the boundary. The eastern half is bounded by the Aravulli, which separates Sirohi from the high table land of Meywar. Stretching southwards, this range abuts on the Mahee Kanta, and forms a wild hilly region, extending to within 15 miles of the base of Aboo, commonly known as the "Bhakur," 24 miles long by about 30 broad.

Notwithstanding its rocky nature, the soil is fertile, and water is everywhere to be found near the surface, but owing to a sparse population the geater portion remains a wild jungle. To the south and east of Aboo, and to the north-east of Sirohi, there are large tracts without a single inhabitant; and from personal observation I do not consider that more than one-fortieth of the whole area of the State is under cultivation.

The country is peculiarly adapted for the formation of tanks for supplying the lower land with water; and a moderate outlay in the construction of embankments would not only save and bring into use the water now allowed to run off, but in all probability draw together an agricultural population, and convert the country now lying waste into a granary for the surrounding States.

There are no reliable data from which to form an estimate of the population, but the following Table will show the distribution of the villages. It does not, however, include the Bheel and Grassia hamlets:—

No.	Pergunnah.	VILLAGES.						
		Khalsa.	Zenana.	Temples.	Religious Bodies.	Jaghire-dars.	Deserted.	Total.
1	Chowra	7½	1½	5	...	27	...	41
2	Kharal	4	...	3	2	13	2	22
3	Jhora	½	...	...	1	10½	1	12
4	Mugra	8½	½	6	5	31½	7	51
5	Rewace	32½	1½	5	3	16	2½	58
6	Bheetrote	60	3	7	5	14	23	89
7	Barat	10	...	...	7	45	27	62
8	Sath	1	...	3½	8	51½	26	64
9	Khoonee	14	1	½	2	34½	1	52
10	Aboo	10	...	5	...	...	...	15
	Total. ...	147½	7½	35	33	242½	111	466

The Thakwars.

6. The owners of the soil are Rajpoot Thakwars, who from their habits and mode of life too often think of aught but the interests of their peasantry and estates. Possessing many noble qualities, but with strong passions, uneducated and practically uncontrolled by any authority, they have advanced less than almost any other class. Feuds still linger among several of the families, and breaking out occasionally cause the desertion and ruin of villages, and entail much

misery and loss of life. Land, too, often affords a source of contention. Many of the disputes are of long standing, and there are few of the more noted boundaries that have not annually been the scene of strife. Some of the Thakwars participate in the plunder of the lawless characters who reside on their estates. But these, I am glad to say, are now the exception. On the Durbar attempting to interfere, or a Thakwar considering himself in any measure aggrieved, he would forthwith go into outlawry, and endeavour to carry his point by causing destruction either to khalsa or his enemy's land, as the nature of his case might be. Some compromise has then to be effected, and the outlaw having received "bachan" or a promise of safety from the hand of a Charun would be reinstated. As the outlaw in such instances is invariably sympathized with and aided by a large brotherhood, the pettiest Thakwar can make himself an object of anxiety to the State, and this fact, together with the absence of any proper force, prevents the Durbar from punishing many of its nobles. The two great asylums for turbulent Chiefs and outlaws have been Lohana of Marwar and the "Bhakur" of Sirohi.

A firmer authority and the extension of education can alone bring about a change in this class.

The wilder races.

7. A very large portion of the population of the State consists of wild and semi-barbarous races. The Bheels are the aborigines of the country, and may be divided into two classes:—those who, in common with other caste, reside in villages, and those who live in hamlets and communities formed of their own people, and governed by leaders of their own tribe. The former are to be met with through the length and breadth of the State, the latter only in parts of the eastern border adjoining the Meywar Hilly Tracts. Three other races seem to have appeared at comparatively recent dates, and to have established themselves in certain portions which may now be called distinctively their own. Thus the Meenas occupy the north, the Grassias the east, and the Kolies the south. In the west the Bheels are alone found.

The Bheels and Meenas.

8. The Bheels and Meenas are the two great predatory classes. The former have in several instances taken to agricultural pursuits. The ancestors of the latter are said to have settled in Godwar some 570 years ago, and to have formed a portion of the force of a Chohan leader, who came about that time from Delhi to aid in schemes of conquest. Rude, uncivilized, and looked down upon, both castes are accustomed from their birth to rob. Facilitated by the nature of the State, they can steal unobserved through miles of hill and jungle to effect their object. When bent on evil no one is too poor, nothing too mean or valueless to escape them; and in the hands of some of the more lawless Thakwars they prove but too willing instruments for the commission of revenge and ill.

The Grassias.

9. The Grassias emigrated from the Meywar and Edur tracts to the wild adjoining region of Sirohi. In many places they have, to a certain extent, amalgamated with the Bheel, the original occupant of the soil, but are oftener to be met with by themselves. Almost courting retirement, their huts are scattered about in hamlets on the slopes of the hills, over which and the richer valleys their irregular fields extend.

The "Bhakur" or Hilly Tracts.

10. The "Bhakur," sometimes called from two of its villages "Ghur Khejra," is, as has already been stated, a portion of the Aravulli here very broad. Consisting of successive ranges of steep and rugged hills, which rise to an elevation of 2,500 feet, the only routes are by the passes. The main one is from the little village of Deildur, called by natives of the country "the gate of the Bhakur" to the shrine of the Amba Bhawanee, "the universal mother," on the very border of Sirohi and the Mahee Kanta, a distance of some 22 miles. Studded over the entire tract are Grassia hamlets, with a few Bheel villages on the confines.

Up to the beginning of this year little, if anything, was known of this country or its inhabitants. The latter were said to be jealous of intrusion, and to have more than once effectually prevented the entrance of a force by barring their passes. Wonderful tales were told of their strength and lawlessness; of the celerity with which they assembled; and how a few beats of the country drum repeated over the mountain ranges could, in an incredibly short space of time, collect at any one spot hundreds of their clan. No Raj official ventured inside; no dues, revenue, or tribute were paid by its people, who owned but a nominal allegiance to the Durbar. Here, however, the outlaw felt he had a safe asylum. All communications between the State and the unruly occupants of the "Bhakur" were carried on through Charuns, whose interest it was to maintain a state of things which gave them a livelihood and a certain status. The Durbar, with the usual apathy of Eastern Governments, preferred leaving these troublesome subjects alone, while the knowledge that their fastnesses had on more than one occasion, in times gone by, offered a secure retreat to former Princes, and a vague feeling that the region might still one day prove of use, rendered the Durbar in some degree unwilling to reduce it. The raids and excesses of the people were taken almost as a matter of course. A year seldom passed without some disturbances more or less serious; and when the loss occasioned fell on the Mahee Kanta, the Durbar had to pay compensation.

The "Bhakur" had, so far as I am aware, been only visited by Colonel Downing, Political Superintendent of the State, who marched from Deildur to Amba Bhawanee in 1841. Admission was, it is stated, for sometime refused; and it was only on security being given that no evil intentions were harboured against the Grassias, and that the Political Superintendent would confine himself to the track, that Colonel Downing was permitted to prosecute his journey. At a later date Colonel Anderson proceeded to Deildur to treat with the Grassias, but nothing was, I am told, done, as the representatives who had assembled to meet him left without giving notice or receiving permission. In 1864 an attempt was made to open out the tract by carrying a road from Deildur to Amba Bhawanee. But this work, which was undertaken under the protection of a strong detachment, had to be abandoned almost at its commencement owing to the sickness then prevalent and the opposition of the inhabitants.

The Grassias in the Plains.

From the high lands the Grassias have of late years spread westwards, and their rude huts are to be found among the remains which mark the side of the famous, but now almost forgotten, city of Chandrâotee, the former

mart of western trade. Remaining but two or three years in one place, they are here the rude pioneers of civilization, clearing the wilder and more unhealthy regions of wood and forest, bringing the land into use, and preparing it for the occupation at a later date of the more advanced races.

The Grassias who live outside the "Bhakur" are tolerably subservient to control, and generally pay a small tax on the lands they occupy.

The Kolies.

11. The Kolies are said to have first appeared in Sirohi about 130 years ago, and to have spread from Guzerat. They are, I am informed, a thieving class in some countries, but have here settled down to agriculture, and give little or no trouble in comparison with the three preceding races.

The Marwar Border.

12. More than half of Sirohi is bounded by Marwar, and the inroads from that State have been amongst the most fruitful causes of distress and anxiety, not only in the neighbouring districts, but throughout a great portion of the country. Sirohi, owing to the wild nature of its surface and to the weakness of its government, has been for generations the ground for the lawless of Marwar to plunder on; and the Rao in his khureeta of the 9th of March last, to the address of His Excellency the Viceroy, only gave utterance to the complaints of his subjects, when stating that it was "the scene of their robberies." The worst portions of the Marwar border are the north-east by Nana Bhera, the north by Doodey Allee, and the south-west. The two first are occupied by Meenas. In the last mentioned corner reside the notorious robber Chiefs of Jaweea, Chekla, Lohana, and Bargaon. The three first secure in their hilly fastnesses, and all in their distance from Jodhpore, care but little for the authority of the Durbar. Their Bheels and followers are the terror of both Sirohi and Pahlunpore. Safety from their outrages there is none. On tracts being carried to the confines of their estates, entrance is often opposed; and as this mode of proving a case is now no longer accepted in the International Courts, redress is in many instances impossible. I do not mean it to be inferred that subjects of Sirohi do not plunder in Marwar, but it must be remembered that the Thakwars of the former are weak and petty in comparison with those of the latter; and that while there is without doubt on the part of Prince and peasant a certain desire for improvement in Sirohi, the anarchy and confusion reigning in Marwar increase temptation to crime and lawlessness. Oppression and injustice drive numbers to the commission of acts they would otherwise not think of, while impunity emboldens the offender.

During the late cold weather a Raj force, accompanied by the Political Agent, Marwar, visited a portion of the border, and its movements were watched with intense anxiety and interest from the camp of the Rao, then in the Grassia tracts, where all the available force of Sirohi had been collected. Hopes were expressed that the marauders of this region, who had escaped so long, would at last be punished, and the arrival of the messenger with news from the border was the one event of the day. When intelligence then arrived that a heavy fine was to be inflicted, high and low had but one remark to offer, that Sirohi would be laid under contribution to pay it. Much good, however, is to be anticipated from this movement on the part of the

Marwar Durbar. Spasmodic though it may be, it will tend to dispel the feeling of perfect security in which the border Chiefs have hitherto lived.

His Highness the Rao.

13. As the condition and prosperity of a Native State must depel almost entirely on the personal character of the ruler, it may be appropriate as well as interesting to advert here to the Rao himself. In my former Report, submitted some three months after receiving charge, I stated, what was then my belief, that His Highness was entirely under the influence of the Ministers about his person. But a more intimate acquaintance, and the opportunities an almost daily association have afforded me of knowing the Rao, have caused me to alter my opinion. The salient points in His Highness's character are miserliness, religious superstition, and bigotry, and suspiciousness of the acts and motives of those about him.

Notwithstanding the increasing balance in late years of receipts over disbursements, and a considerable sum in his treasury, His Highness refuses to expend anything, however small, on useful or remunerative works, such as tanks and embankments, on repairing the few that already exist, on roads, on the extra troops and officials so much required, in increasing the pay of those now in his service, in fact, on anything. Whenever urging one or other of these on his attention, I am always met by the same reply that he is too poor to afford aught. No argument, no prospect of improvement, or increase to revenue, will tempt him to part with money.

His Highness conforms most strictly with the forms and ceremonies enjoined by his religion, and spends a great portion of the day in their observance. Very frequently (but invariably upon festivals) he proceeds about a mile and a half to worship at the shrine of Sarneshwar (Mahadeo), the tutelary diety of the Deoras, where the cenotaphs and mausolea of his ancestors stand. His belief in Gosaens is unbounded, and a number of these stout, able-bodied, and almost nude mendicants are always to be found at the gates of the palace, where they are supplied with whatever delicacy they may choose to ask for and the small capital command.

Owing to the extreme suspiciousness His Highness evinces towards all in office, no good official will stay in his employ. He places confidence in no one, and in very many instances work is neither done by himself, nor allowed to be carried out by his Minister. The few able men, therefore, who have from time to time been in hiss ervice, have invariably left on the first opportunity that offered. Owing to this distrust, and the wretched pittance given as pay, there have never, since I have been in charge of this Office, been sufficient for the proper conduct of affairs or the actual requirements of current work.

But in other respects the Rao is, I believe, a kind and well-meaning man, free from the vices which too often debase the Native character, and peculiarly happy in his domestic relations. Indeed, were it not that he is so narrow-minded he would, I doubt not, have proved a good Ruler.

His Highness is very sensitive in all matters pertaining to his rank and dignity. The one object of his ambition is to be officially recognized as *Maha* Rao, a title under which he has always been

addressed from this Office. He points to the titles granted to the Chiefs of Ulwur and Jhallawar, and repeats that the recognition of the prefix he so longs for would in his case be an acknowledgment of the Durbar's services during the mutiny, and of himself as the representative of an ancient family.

Any prospect of securing this title would be a most powerful incentive to exertions for the improvement of his State, and the introduction of the many reforms so much required in its administration.

The Ministers of the State.

14. The following were the chief Ministers of the State in September 1865 :—

1.—The Dewan, an unscrupulous Native of the Bunya class.

2.—Heera Nund, a Moosahib, a quiet and retiring Brahman of moderate attainments, and able to read and understand English.

3.—The Vakeel in attendance on the Political Superintendent, a hereditary priest of the State.

4.—The Vakeel in the Marwar International Court, also a priest, but a confirmed opium-eater.

These, with the exception of No. 2, were men of no education, and quite unfitted for the posts they occupied.

The Kamdars.

15. The State is divided into 10 pergunnahs. Over each is a Kamdar charged with the collection of revenue and customs, and in whom is vested the criminal and civil jurisdiction of the district.* To aid him in maintaining order is a Thannadar with a small establishment. The pay of the former varies from 6 to 12 Bheelaree Rupees. The latter receive from 5 to 8, with an allowance for the keep of their horses. It is sufficient to mention the salaries of the Kamdars to arrive at the character and stamp of the men employed. Mostly of the Bunya class and ignorant, they defraud the State, to make up for the poor pay on which in this country they cannot exist. The majority add to their incomes by trafficking in the grain in which the revenue is to a great extent received. Their policy is to keep on good terms with the more powerful Thakwars, and this is effected by a system of mutual non-interference. They seldom care to enquire into the cases which come to their notice. In most instances it is labour lost to call for a report from them in either criminal or civil matters. Even in the simplest questions relating to revenue, amount of cultivation, number of wells, &c., they state their inability to furnish a reply.

To such men is entrusted the welfare of the country, and it is often a source of wonder to me how matters go on as well as they do. But perhaps the very independence of the people may be said to be the greatest check on the Kamdars and other Durbar officials.

The Thannadars.

16. It is pleasing to turn from the Kamdars to the Rajpoot Thannadars, who are, as a body, gallant and willing men, continually exposed in the performance of their duties to danger of no common kind. In several centrical and commanding situations are located posts of 10 or 12 Sipahis. Besides these, but few and very far between, are others consisting of 2 or 3. This disposition is quite inadequate for the protection

* The Thakwars exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction on their own estates; but cases of any importance have to be referred by Kamdars and Thakwars to the capital for trial.

of the people, or the suppression of crime. The chief duties of the men composing these thannas is by a system of continual patrolling to keep the predatory classes in check; but owing to the large area of waste land to be traversed, and the weakness and distance of the posts, they are next to useless.

Measures for improvement.

17. Such was the condition of the country and its government when the full control of affairs was made over to the Rao, and such it may still be said to be. To bring about a change, it has been my endeavour to induce the Rao first to introduce gradually upright and able Kamdars, and to increase the pay of those in his service; second, to entertain more troops for the protection of his territories, and to insist upon his Jaghiredars acting up to their engagements in maintaining the watch and ward for which they were responsible; third, to see justice given to his subjects; and, fourth, to try and obtain settlers by the offer of land on liberal terms. I regret to state that in all of these measures, in which any expenditure was necessary, I have hitherto failed. Though no one was better acquainted with the character of the Kamdars, His Highness was averse to their removal, alleging that if they did not do much, and perhaps defrauded the State, they were very cheap, and that the class of men I wished him to entertain would have to be paid high salaries. His Highness, however, said that he would insist on their performing their duties in a more satisfactory manner. He promised that a separate and trustworthy officer should be appointed to hear and decide cases, and agreed, as mentioned in my last Report, to the issue of a proclamation regarding land. Nothing was, however, done in either of the two first matters, while the last proving a dead-letter, I ascertained from the Rao himself that a dread of incurring expense had kept him from allowing its promulgation. It was not therefore until February, when several drafts had been forwarded for his consideration, that one, as given on the margin, was approved of, and eventually issued. But even then no action was taken.

DRAFT OF CONDITIONS.

Land as much as shall be required for peopling a village, or for cultivation, will be granted to any settler applying therefor on the following terms:—

I.—No Raj right, dues, or assessment to be charged on such land for a period of seven years.

II.—The settler to use or sell the wood on his land according to pleasure.

III.—The State to protect the settler's life and property, and not to allow any of the Raj officials to oppress him.

IV.—All eatables and grain imported by the settler for his own use to be passed free of duty for seven years.

V.—The State to pay half the cost of two wells sunk on such land. Should any bund or tank, the construction of which is contemplated, appear of advantage, the State may defray half of its cost.

VI.—The State to supply each poor cultivator with a Bohra, who shall advance money on fair terms.

VII.—On the expiry of the 7th, and for the 8th year, the State will take a fourth, for the 9th a half, for the 10th three-quarters, and for and after the 11th year the whole of the usual dues and assessment levied by the Raj.

VIII.—All subjects of the Sirohi State taking up fresh lands under the above conditions, to maintain their former fields in proper cultivation.

IX.—Whoever will bring 50 or 100 families will be granted land for a village under these terms, and will on the expiry of the eleven years be considered its Jaghiredar.

X.—Every settler to receive a Sunnud from the Raj.

18. Failing to rouse the Durbar I made it my object, wherever my first tour led me, to endeavour to incite the Thakwars to act for themselves, and to improve their estate and incomes by inducing people

to settle, by digging wells, and by founding new and re-populating the deserted villages on their extensive but untenanted lands. These efforts, I was happy to find during my late march, had borne some fruit. Several Thakwars asked me to accompany them to see the wells they had sunk since my last visit, or those they were having dug. Among these, I may particularly mention, the Thakwar of Mandwarra and the Rao of Muddar. The latter and his family have taken an active interest in the re-population of the deserted village of Sonela and the revival of its long neglected cultivation. They have also promised to introduce, during the present year, the culture of sugar-cane in a locality which, from the supply of water, appeared peculiarly adapted for its growth.

Measures for populating the country.

19. In March 1866 the Rao at my request appointed a young official to the duty of carrying out the intentions of the proclamation he had issued, and the result of his exertions have been the re-occupation of seven deserted villages by 75 families. In addition to these, 26 families have been settled in other small hamlets, while the ceremony of affixing the "Toran" has been carried out in four long abandoned villages.

Had any energy been evinced by the local authorities, very much indeed could have been done in this important respect owing to the unsettled state of Marwar. The Rao, too, would not act up to the terms of his proclamation, and objected to allow crown lands lying waste to be taken up, preferring rather to have them remain so, than that they should be reclaimed, and a source of revenue by becoming to a certain degree alienated.

Appointment of a new Dewan.

20. In the beginning of 1866 the Rao directed the retirement of the Dewan, and requested Heera Nund to take up the appointment. On his declining to do so His Highness wrote for Moonshee Niyamut Alli, an old and trusted Minister of the State, who had served the late Chief for nearly 30 years, but who, on the accession to power of His present Highness, had found it necessary to resign, owing to the want of confidence displayed by the Rao. In consideration of his services during the mutiny, services rendered at no small personal danger, Sir George Lawrence, then Agent, Governor General, obtained for him service in the Bhurtpore State, where he had risen to the charge of the pergunnah of Gopalgurh. But he, too, for some time excused himself, and it was not till the close of July that he consented to come. Later in the year the Vakeel in attendance on the Political Superintendent fell under the displeasure of the Chief, and was directed to retire to his estate. His Highness then sent for Moonshee Ameen Mahomed, an official of the Rao of Kutch, who had in 1863-64 done excellent service in Sirohi.

Improvements effected by the new Minister.

His Highness has been most fortunate in securing the services of two such able servants. The former has, from his thorough knowledge of the country, the Thakwars, and the people, been able to effect much good, and on more than one occasion has given me most valuable assistance. Since his arrival work has been conducted with regularity and with some degree of system. Hours have been set apart for the transaction of business and the trial of cases; and could the Rao

be induced to place some confidence in his Minister great improvements might be anticipated. But the distrust which seems to possess His Highness of every one who fills the post of Dewan has, I much regret to report, evinced itself towards the present incumbent.

The Trunk Road through Sirohi.

21. In the 8th paragraph of my Report for 1864-65 I referred to the frequent robberies on the Trunk Road passing through the length of the State, and the facilities offered by the wildness of the country for the commission of violent crime. In the end of last year Bheel and Meena posts were established along the entire length of road at distances of six miles apart. A marked improvement has since taken place, and robbery much diminished.

The regular Sebundi.

22. Within the last two years the Rao has, notwithstanding repeated promises to the contrary, allowed his force of regular Sebundi to dwindle down from some 350 to 150. This reduction, which I trust will soon be remedied, has seriously weakened the power of the State to chastise its more lawless Thakwars.

Financial.

23. The following is an abstract of the receipts and disbursements of the State for Sumbut 1922, corresponding with 1865-66, as received from the Durbar:—

Disbursements.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Tribute to Government for year ending 30th April 1866	7,500	0	0			
Household expenses of all kinds	10,307	15	9			
Private fund of H. H. for personal charities and expenditure	15,854	6	6			
Stables, and camels and bullock establishments	23,684	15	0			
Expenses at festivals	1,241	15	9			
Office establishments and Vakeels	7,443	4	0			
Pergunnah expenses, including expenditure on account of police, revenue, &c.	6,599	10	0			
Jail expenses	4,032	6	0			
Troops and contingent expenses	30,009	4	3			
Repairs to roads and buildings	4,121	1	3			
Awards of Courts of Vakeels	2,011	1	9			
Miscellaneous items	4,279	9	0			
				1,17,085	9	3
Uncollected balance in the pergunnahs on 27th July 1866	14,908	12	9			
Balance in Raj Treasury on 27th July 1866	41,614	1	3			
Balance in Raj Kothar by grain, &c., on 27th July 1866	5,992	14	3			
				62,515	12	3
Total ... ... Bheelaree Rupees				1,79,601	5	6

Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Land revenue	76,053	8	9			
Transit dues	38,173	14	0			
Excise	2,865	6	0			
Miscellaneous items	8,950	10	0			
				1,26,043	6	9
Uncollected balance in the pergunnahs on 9th July 1865	4,275	10	0			
Balance in Raj Treasury on 9th July 1865	49,282	4	9			
				53,557	14	9
Total ... ... Bheelaree Rupees				1,79,601	5	6

N. B.—The value of the Bheelaree Rupee varies from 15 annas to 15 annas 9 pies of our currency.

Receipts.

The income from all sources during the year amounted to Rupees 1,26,043, or Rupees 31,654 more than that for the year preceding. This was caused by

an increase, as shown on the margin, under the heads "Land revenue" and "Transit dues." The reasons assigned for a rise in the former are—*first*, the high price of grain obtaining throughout the year; and, *secondly*, an increase in cultivation. The assessment being chiefly levied in kind, any alteration in price necessarily affects the revenue, which during the period in question rose with the enhanced rates of produce. It will be observed that the large sum of Rupees 14,900 remains still uncollected in the several pergunnahs. The whole is, however, stated to be recoverable.

	1865.	1866.
Land revenue	50,942	76,053
Transit dues	29,650	38,173

Expenditure.

The total expenditure during the year is given at Rupees 1,17,000; but I regret to state that no reliance can be placed on the account thus rendered. It has been the object of the Durbar to exhibit as large an expenditure as possible, as evidence of its inability to disburse more annually. The result of careful enquiries instituted throughout the year leads me to believe that the expenditure was under Rupees 85,000.

Education.

24. Education, as stated in my former Report, is at a very low ebb in Sirohi. Teaching is confined almost entirely to the priests of the Jain persuasion, who are termed Jutties; their pupils being the children of the Bunya class and some few Rajpoots. Marwarree and elementary arithmetic are alone taught, generally on the steps of the village temple. At Sirohi a Cazee, introduced many years ago by the present Dewan, teaches Persian and Oordoo to such as come to him. Under his tuition the Rao's own brother, the Sahiban Tez Singh, has obtained a fair knowledge of both languages.

During my first tour I endeavoured by encouragement and small presents to stimulate the village teachers, all of whose schools I visited. The Bunya class, owing to their trade and connections with Bombay and Guzerat, were, I found, quite alive to the importance of education, and I never failed to receive help and full co-operation from their village punches.

I further tried to arrange a system of classes at the capital at which the sons of the Thakwars should attend. This prospered for a very short while, but gradually fell to the ground, there being then no one at Sirohi who would take any interest in the scheme.

On my return from Bhurtpore in December last His Highness consented to the erection of a school-house at the capital. The building was at once commenced, and now only requires to be roofed. On completion the Cazee, who teaches in the town, and a Pundit, who has been entertained to instruct the Maharaj Kower (the heir-apparent), are to be installed, and an English teacher to be procured from Ajmere. On the opening of this school I hope again to induce the Thakwars to send their sons.

During my recent tour I convened meetings of the Bunya class at the important villages of Kalindree, Muddar, and Rohera. At each it was decided to erect a substantial school-house for the reception of the children of the village, and to send for a good teacher from Guzerat. The Bunyas of Rohera were more ambitious than the others, desiring me to obtain for them a person who could also teach English. Any

action was, however, deferred in the matter until it could be ascertained what funds would be forthcoming.

The school-house at Muddar is now rapidly approaching completion. At Rohera and Kalindree misunderstandings have, I am sorry to report, occurred, but I am assured that the inhabitants are still resolved to proceed with the buildings. That at Rohera has been commenced.

At the village of Wassa, the Bunyas have, I am informed, decided on following the example set them by their brethren of the neighbouring village of Rohera.

I look forward rather anxiously to the successful establishment of these schools.

Dispensary.

25. In December last the Rao also sanctioned the erection of a building for a small dispensary. This, I trust, will be ready by the rains. His Highness has expressed a wish that the Native doctor in charge should be expert in the dressing of shot and arrow wounds.

Vaccination.

26. The Durbar has for nine years maintained a vaccinator, who seems to have gained the confidence and good-will of the people. In order to retain his services the State has twice raised his pay, and he is now in receipt of Rupees.18 per mensem. During the hot weather months he transfers his attention to the villages on Aboo. A Return of the operations performed during the past year has been prepared, but as the information it contains is submitted to Government in the Half-yearly Statements of Dispensaries, it has not been annexed.

Narrative of events.

27. This Report has already assumed too great proportions to permit of anything like a consecutive narrative of events, the most important of which will therefore only be chronicled.

Case of self-mutilation and murder at Seeroorhee.

28. In July 1865 a case of "chandee" or self-mutilation and murder occurred at Seeroorhee, a village of Sirohi, on the Marwar border. From enquiries instituted it transpired that the sons and followers of the Thakwar of Lohana of Marwar had entered the fields of some Brahman ryots of the village, whom they had proceeded to bind and ill-treat; that on their wives and brethren coming out to entreat for mercy they were likewise assailed, and that at last goaded to desperation, the women in the manner of their people slashed their arms and persons, and a Brahman cut off the head of the aged mother of one of the party who had lacerated herself dreadfully.

29. This outrage was but a portion of the Hulleewarra village case which had been going on for years, and to which attention was at once attracted by the cruelties of the sons of Lohana. It may be briefly given as follows :—

The village of Hulleewarra and the Thakwar of Lohana of Marwar.

Before our interference the state of this country was deplorable in the extreme, Marwar bands overran Sirohi and pillaged its lands. The Thakwar of Kalindree, the owner of Hulleewarra,

accordingly sought for his village the support of the powerful Thakwar of Lohana of Marwar, whose stronghold is situated under a range of hills some four miles distant, and agreed to pay him nearly half of its revenues as black-mail for its protection. In 1854-55 the boundaries of the village were laid down by a Raj official under the orders of the late Colonel Anderson, then Political Superintendent, and pillars erected. These were respected for a period of two years, when the mutiny breaking out Lohana ravaged the country of both friend and foe, and among other acts of violence razed the pillars. The village has ever since been the scene of strife, Lohana not allowing the fields near the boundaries to be tilled, or the grass lands to be cut by those who had been declared the rightful owners. Sirohi was too weak to interfere, and matters would have probably gone on in the same manner for years, had not the cruelties perpetrated on the Brahmans at Seeroorhee outraged the religious feelings of the Rao. At his first interview with you on the occasion of my being placed in charge, His Highness besought your intervention, saying that no boundaries laid down by the Durbar would be respected by Lohana, who from his power, but more especially from his position as a subject of Marwar, could in no way be coerced. In the end of 1865 the Thakwar carried off a number of the villagers to his own estates. This was denied at the time by the Marwar Vakeel, but afterwards acknowledged by Lohana, who sent back several during my stay at the village. In the beginning of 1866 the Rao solicited me by khureeta to fix the boundaries and define the right of the Thakwar in the village. You also directed me to enquire into the case. I maintained in their integrity the boundaries laid down in Colonel Anderson's time, and re-established the pillars. I recommended that the subsidy promised to the Thakwar should be continued if he ceased to molest the village and its lands, but that it should be forfeited should he persist in his conduct. My four proceedings in the case were severally submitted for your information, and received your approval; but up to this present there has been no change in the action of Lohana.

Feud between the Thakwars of Behlangree and Dhanta.

30. In November 1865 the feud between the Thakwars of Behlangree and Dhanta, which had caused misery and bloodshed for upwards of eight years, again broke out. The latter carried off the herds of the former, but was soon overtaken. A running fight ensued, in which several on both sides were shot down, and a severe struggle took place round a well, where the Dhanta people turned to bay. I at once proceeded to Behlangree, and re-assured the Bunyas, whom I found already preparing to leave for safer quarters. Thence I marched to Dhanta, which I found almost deserted owing to the fear of reprisals. I urged on the Durbar the necessity for at once bringing this quarrel to a close. The Dhanta Thakwar, who had gone into outlawry, was sent for, a punchayet assembled, and after several months a settlement was effected. The final ceremony of opium-drinking has lately been carried out; and the feud may thus be numbered amongst those of the past.

The Grassias.

31. In January 1866 the Grassias of the "Bhakur" made a succession of forays on the neighbouring country for a period of nearly three

weeks. The reason given for these was the death of Jalma (a son of the late notorious Grassia leader Kannia), who had been shot down in July 1865 while harrying the cattle of the village of Varro. After this they again settled down. It was my intention to have visited these tracts towards the close of the cold weather, but the arrival of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army and other pressing duties prevented me from carrying out my wish.

Quarrel between the Grassias and Bheels.

32. In March the quarrel between the Grassia and Bheel clans, referred to in the 7th paragraph of my former Report, was brought to a close by Major Mackeson. The dispute had been a complicated one, and the fact of the loss of life having been almost entirely confined to one side, that of the Grassias, made it all the more difficult of settlement. Finally, a punchayet, agreed to by the two parties, adjudicated the case. Some of the awards are curious, as showing the customs and condition of these people. Half blood-money for each man killed was fixed at one buffalo of from three to four years of age and five rupees in cash; while a calf was awarded as compensation to every man wounded.

Prevention of suttee.

33. In June an attempt at suttee occurred at the village of Chandowal, where an aged widow determined to perish in the flames with the corpse of her only son. The village authorities, however, promptly interfered and retained her until the corpse was burnt.

Outlawry of the Thakwar of Domanee against Pahlunpore.

34. In July 1866 the Thakwar of Domanee of Sirohi, who is also Jaghiredar of Gingole of Pahlunpore, went into outlawry against the latter State, in consequence of some dispute relating to the lands of his villages. On three occasions he attacked Pahlunpore villages, causing some loss of life and considerable damage. The Pahlunpore Durbar complained that the outlaw received shelter in Sirohi. This, however, was at no time proved. In order to assist Pahlunpore extra posts were placed by the Sirohi Durbar along the border, and the detachments of the cavalry of the Erinpoora Irregular Force, stationed on the high road, were sent to assist in patrolling the frontier. Finally, in March last, the outlaw came in on receiving a promise of safety and pardon from Pahlunpore. His village dispute has since, I believe, been decided, and he is now once more re-settled.

Marriage of the Rao's sister to the Maharajah of Jodhpore.

35. In September the Maharajah of Jodhpore visited Sirohi to wed a second sister of the Rao. The cost of the marriage expenses amounted to about Rupees 30,000. By the imposition of the usual tax levied on such occasion, termed "banola," His Highness has not only recovered the amount, but obtained a sum in excess.

Feud between the Rao of Neemuj of Sirohi and the Thakwar of Bargaon of Marwar.

36. In October the Rao of Neemuj, the most powerful Thakwar of Sirohi, and likewise a feudatory of Pahlunpore, attacked the village of Bargaon of Marwar. Advancing in considerable force from Bapla, one of his villages in Pahlunpore on the very borders of Marwar and Sirohi, he fired on the village, but was compelled to retire, and in doing so lost 18 men killed, 9 wounded, his gun and some stores being captured. He would appear, so far as it is possible to

ascertain, to have acted under the orders of, and in concert with, the Hakim of Jalore of Marwar, in which pergunnah Bargaon is situated, but to have been deserted by that official at the last moment. In January last I visited the border, and after considerable difficulty with Neemuj (who would for some days hear of no accommodation, but prayed to be allowed to revenge himself once more on Bargaon) a reconciliation was effected between the two Chiefs. The ceremony of opium-drinking, the very strongest fetter which could be laid on both, was carried out in my presence, and before an assemblage of some 400 men.

Flight of the aged Thakwaranee of Poseena with the young Chief into Sirohi.

37. In October last the great-grandmother of the boy Thakwar of Poseena fled into the Sirohi, "Bhakur," taking with her the young Chief and three or four attendants. Poseena is a petty Chiefship of Edur, situated on the very border of the Mahee Kanta. For some months previous an uneasy feeling had existed there, owing, the Poseena party state, to the encroachments of the Rajah of Edur's Kamdar on the rights and privileges of the Chiefship. The Rajah on the contrary lays the blame on the Kamdar or agent of the lady. Some slight disturbances followed, and on the approach of the Rajah of Edur the Agent fled, followed within a few days by the aged Thakwaranee herself. Messengers were at first despatched to try and induce the lady to return with the young Thakwar to Poseena, but this she declined to do; and it was not until the Rao proceeded in person to the Grassia tracts that she was brought in on a promise of safe conduct. She is still in Sirohi awaiting a reference to the Political Agent, Mahee Kanta.

Expedition to the "Bhakur."

38. I have already adverted in the 10th and following paragraphs of this Report to the lawlessness of the Grassia and Bheel tribes of the "Bhakur," their yearly forays, their custom of harbouring offenders and outlaws, and their indifference to the orders of the Durbar. To bring this state of things to an end, and to reduce the tract to some degree of order, it appeared to me that active measures should be taken. I therefore urged the Rao to move there in person with a strong force, not so much with a view to inflict punishment for what was past, but rather to take security for future conduct, and to prove to the Grassias that, in the event of their not fulfilling their obligations, the Durbar had the power to enforce its authority, a fact they did not appear to believe. After considerable hesitation, evidently arising from a fear that he might be unsuccessful in entering and settling the country, His Highness agreed to proceed thither on the understanding that I accompanied him. I gladly consented. The whole of the Thakwars of the State were at once summoned to attend with their contingents, and in a short time a force of about 1,000 fighting men, with the usual number of followers, was collected. Of the former nearly one-half were armed with guns or matchlocks, the remainder with sword, spear, shield, and bow and arrows. In the meanwhile every precaution was taken for the safety of the force and the prevention of resistance. The entrances to the principal passes into the tract were secured by strong posts amounting in all to 200 men, and emissaries were despatched to intimate that none would be harmed who remain quietly in their villages. Fortunately, too, it happened that the passes leading into Poseena had been blockaded by the Rajah of Edur.

On the 21st February the Rao marched to Deildur and thence through the winding pass to the hamlet of Lower Gudh, so named from the remains of a very extensive fort which still attests the power of the Pramara dynasty. Here upwards of a week was spent. The people had fled to the higher and distant hills, on which their fires were seen all night; but gradually confidence was established. Plundering was strictly forbidden, and on two or three occasions very severely punished; and when the people found their houses untouched and themselves unharmed they began to return, first the men and then the women, everything, even to grass, was paid for. Security was then taken for the payment of certain State dues and for future good conduct. The neighbouring hamlets soon followed the example. Owing to the difficult nature of the track in front, tents of any size and heavy baggage had to be relinquished at Gudh, where it was also deemed expedient to leave a strong post to keep open communication with the rear. The force then proceeded slowly to Amba Bhawanee, the path in many of the passes compelling every one to go on foot. From Amba Bhawanee the Rao moved east, and then north, making a thorough tour of the entire tract, and leaving posts, where such appeared necessary for safety. As at Gudh, the hamlets were deserted on our approach, but the inhabitants quickly returned, when it appeared that no evil intentions were harboured.

A list of the hamlets of the "Bhakur" is given on the margin, with the numbers of the houses they are believed to contain. These are erected at considerable distances from one another, each in its own set of fields. A hamlet thus covers a large area of ground. Those on the confines are occupied by Bheels alone, amongst whom are to be found Grassias, who have taken Bheel wives, and have consequently sunk to their level. Although to the uninitiated eye there appears no difference, the two races are separate and distinct in every way. The Grassias look down upon the Bheels as inferiors. In the hamlets of the former are to be found a few Bheel huts, the occupants of which perform the menial offices of hewers of wood and drawers of water.

Names.	Occupants.	No. of Houses.
Jaidra	Bheels ...	23
Keearee	Do. ...	24
Lower Gudh	Grassias ...	43
Upper Gudh	Do. ...	52
Gorsa	Do. ...	16
Rara	Do. ...	13
Deree	Do. ...	27
Soorpugla	Do. ...	19
Keeara	Do. ...	21
Telaitee	Do. ...	28
Men	Do. ...	36
Booja	Do. ...	13
Upper Bor	Do. ...	15
Lower Bor	Do. ...	32
Jambooree	Do. ...	49
Bomreeo	Do. ...	15
Ranora	Do. ...	17
Upper Khejra	Do. ...	52
Lower Khejra... ...	Do. ...	22
Paba	Do. ...	27
Boree-ka-Booj... ...	Do. ...	16
Doitra	Bheels ...	36
Tankeea	Do. ...	24

None but the villages actually within the Bhakur have been entered.

The houses of the Grassias are substantial buildings; the walls formed of a framework of wood and stout bamboo, covered with thatch; the roof of broad coarse tiles. In Jambooree, which is considered the principal hamlet in the tract, and in a few others, several of the houses are constructed of stone; they are all built on one plan, and consist of an outer and inner room of the same length. The former is very narrow, and is the day room, in which cooking, &c., is carried on. The latter is generally raised, and reached by a step. In this is kept the year's supply of grain, stored in hard mud jars

of all sizes, some upwards of six feet in height. All, with the exception of those in use, are kept carefully closed. Grouped round are sheds for cattle, often with an upper story for stacking grass. The dwellings of the Bheels in the Grassia hamlets are small conical huts of coarse bamboo work, roofed with thatch. Many of these hamlets are picturesquely situated, especially those of lower Bor and Men. The former is a perfect cluster of palms. The latter lies in a pretty valley shaded with fine old trees. Jambooree again covers an undulating table-land of some little extent. Communication between the several hamlets is maintained through the passes, several of which are impracticable save on foot, and could be held against any force by a few determined men. The Grassias depend almost entirely on the rain crop, the seed of which is scattered broadcast over the sides of the hills, in fact everywhere there is the least soil. For this reason, and as they seldom use the same ground more than three years, they have cleared the whole tract,—trees being only found in the deeper ravines. The Grassias respect the cow, and never take the life of any animal with a white coat. Sheep they never kill, nor did I see one throughout the tract.

Shortly after our arrival at Gudh a large force of labourers was placed under the charge of a Sikh Chuprassee of the Superintendency, who had had some experience in road-making on Aboo; and ere the force left a good broad road had been cleared from Deildur almost to Amba Bhawanee. In many places, owing to the masses of rock, this was a work of no small difficulty.

"Fouj Bal," or the expenses of the expedition, was levied in the small sturdy cattle of the country. The amount of compensation paid by the Durbar for outrages committed by the Grassias and Bheels on the Mahee Kanta was also recovered, chiefly in cattle. 537 head were thus collected, the sale of which, it is expected, will realize a sum of upwards of Rupees 4,000.

The force defiled out of the tract on the 14th March, leaving a Thanna of 100 men strongly posted at Gudh for the maintenance of good order.

Altogether the expedition was a great success, no resistance having been offered, except on one occasion, when people clearing the road were attacked and fired at.

Reduction of the Bheel hamlet of Waloreea.

39. On return to Rohera a strong force was ordered to punish Waloreea, a Bheel hamlet some seven miles distant, which had for years defied the Durbar. The Bheels, however, had received intelligence of the move, and had taken to the hills. In this attack three men were, I regret to say, killed and several wounded. The force had accordingly to be kept on the spot for the protection of the villages in the vicinity. Finally, offers of submission were received and a portion of the Bheels resettled. A Thanna will for the future be maintained in the place.

I may mention that His Highness remained at Rohera till the close of these operations.

Aboo.

40. To the executive political duties of this Office is added the civil charge of the station of Aboo. On appointment I found the position and jurisdiction of the Magistrate so undefined that as soon as the necessary data could be collected the question was submitted to you

with a view to the orders of Government being taken thereon. Subsequently, with the permission of the Rao, the Acts, marginally quoted, were extended to Aboo and the village at its foot, called Anadra, while the Political Superintendent was invested with the powers of a Magistrate. In cases in which both plaintiff and defendant are subjects of the Sirohi State jurisdiction, as heretofore, rests with the Durbar.

Act VIII. of 1859, Act XIV. of 1859, Act XLV. of 1860, Act XXV. of 1861, Act X. of 1862, Act VI. of 1864.

41. Our occupation of Aboo as a sanitarium has not been without considerable inconvenience to the people located at its base, while the continual calls for oxen and carts, especially from March till July, fall very heavily on the small villages in the vicinity of Anadra and along the road to Deesa. In several cases ryots have actually left for distant villages. To try and in some degree meet the difficulty of carriage I recommended the Durbar authorities to make up a few carts. This is being done, and when ready they are to be given to cartmen, who will refund the original cost by instalments from their earnings.

Aboo as a sanitarium.

42. The question of coolie labour for Aboo is one of great importance, as affecting not only the comfort of the troops and residents generally, but also the welfare and happiness of the people among whom we have established ourselves. For several years there had been an increasing difficulty in procuring coolies, caused in some degree by two or three severe epidemics of fever which had swept the plains at the foot of Aboo; but more especially by the rates offered by the contractors of the Public Works Department on the barracks and Government buildings in course of erection on the hill, rates which had very soon attracted all the available labour of this sparsely populated country. Thus, as year by year the station of Aboo increased in importance, there were fewer and fewer coolies to supply its demands. To meet the difficulty recourse had been had to the Durbar. Impressment, introduced as an exceptional measure, soon became the rule, and on my receiving charge had grown into a crying evil. At the commencement of my cold weather tour several Jaghiredars waited on me to complain of it as injuring their estates; while the villagers represented that they were torn from their pursuits and, although unaccustomed to such labour, compelled to carry loads up the steep ascent of Aboo. The Durbar, too, brought the evil effects of this system of forced labour to my notice, and pointed out that year by year the circle of impressment had been extending.

Coolie labour for Aboo.

I at once endeavoured, to the best of my ability, to rectify matters. The rates of coolie hire were raised, and agents and Raj sowars sent into adjacent districts to notify the fact, and to try and collect men. To induce families to immigrate land was offered at Anadra free for several years, in order that some of the members might engage in agriculture, while others worked as coolies. Political Officers of neighbouring States were also communicated with, and their assistance solicited. My agents returned informing me that numbers had promised to come in, but that none could be expected until the fields were cut, which would not be until the beginning of April. In the meanwhile, in the commencement of March, a large detachment of British troops was ordered from Deesa to Aboo. Owing to the want of

coolies the Raj authorities had in my absence no option but to impress about 100 men. Notwithstanding the presence of these, and the assistance rendered by 25 mules sent with the detachment, the greatest difficulties were experienced; and it was only after two more batches of men had been collected that the baggage was conveyed up the hill. Many hardships were entailed on the subjects of the State, who were brought in numerous instances upwards of 20 miles, at a time when their fields required their utmost care. These facts were at once communicated to the Brigadier General Commanding at Deesa. His co-operation to remedy matters was earnestly solicited, and several measures suggested. Failing to obtain any satisfactory reply I addressed you, and in submitting the case deprecated impressment, and recommended that the Commissariat Department should be required to make provision for the carriage of the troops and stores, and to rely on their own agency for the transport necessary for the sanitarium. I pointed out that by judicious arrangements, such as by sending up stores and heavy articles during the cold weather, when coolies are almost unemployed, and the entertainment of a small fixed establishment, not only would complications be awarded, but a saving to Government effected.

The question is at present under consideration, and will, no doubt, be satisfactorily settled.

No further difficulties were experienced during the remainder of 1866, owing to the number of coolies attracted by the increased rate of hire. I have no doubt that as the country improves and grain becomes cheaper, the difficulties now felt will gradually pass away. To this end every exertion is being made, and I may mention that the Rao has considerately remitted certain dues levied at Anadra.

Communication with Aboo.

43. Whether the construction of a cart road up the hill would not obviate many of the disadvantages under which the station now labours in regard to transport, increase its usefulness as a sanitarium by making it more accessible, and eventually prove a saving to Government, appears to me a matter deserving of attention. A road in the position of the existing path would, owing to the steepness of the ascent, be impossible. But to the south-west, and in the direction of Deesa, the formation of the mountain is believed to admit of such an undertaking. The practicability of the scheme could readily be tested by having a survey of the line of country made, and should the Report be favourable, and a road be carried in the direction referred to, another important object would be attained, that of bringing Aboo nearer to Deesa by nearly a third of the present distance. It is, I am credibly informed, the intention of the Government of Bombay to station a much larger body of European troops on Aboo. In the event of such a contingency the want of a cart road will be more felt. The collection of so large a number of coolies as would then be required would be a work of serious difficulty, while the expense of transport by the present route would prove a heavy charge.

Requesting to be pardoned for the length of this Report.

SIROHI AGENCY, MOUNT ABOO,
The 22nd April 1867.

(Sd.) W. J. W. MUIR,
Political Superintendent, Sirohi.

APPENDIX.

Tabular Statement submitted to Government with Rajpootana

Number.	Name of State.	Particulars of Rulers.			General Statistics.				Army and	
		Title.	Name.	Age.	Salute in Guns.	Area in Square Miles.	Approximate Population.	Approximate Revenues.	Fort Guns.	Field Guns.
					UNDER AGENT, GOVERNOR GENERAL, RAJPOOTANA.					
1	Bikaneer. ...	Maharajah ...	Sirdar Singh ...	49	17	17,680	5,50,000	7,50,000	26	12
2	Jeysulmere ...	Maha Rawul...	Beree Sal	17	15	12,250	74,400	1,06,000	12	3
3	Kishengurh ...	Maharajah ...	Pirthee Singh ...	38	15	724	1,00,000	2,25,000	16	3
4	Kerrowlie ...	Maharajah ...	Muddun Pal ...	34	17	1,870	1,87,800	3,50,000	30	6
5	Ulwur	Maharao Rajah	Sheodan Singh ...	22	15	3,573	7,00,000	20,00,000	200	30
6	Tonk	Nawab ...	Mahomed Ali Khan	38	17	1,864	1,82,600	12,00,000	40	12
7	Dholepore ...	Rana	Bhugwunt Singh	50	15	1,626	5,25,000	10,00,000	6	6
					UNDER POLITICAL AGENT, MEYWAR.					
8	Oodeypore or Meywar ...	Maha Rana...	Sumbhoo Singh...	20	17	11,614	11,61,400	26,61,000	40	10
9	Doongurpore...	Maha Rawul...	Oodey Singh ...	28	15	1,000	1,00,000	1,26,000	2	3
10	Banswarra ...	Maha Rawul...	Luchmun Singh...	28	15	1,440	1,44,000	1,26,000	2	3
11	Pertabgurh ...	Maha Rawut...	Oodey Singh ...	20	15	1,457	1,45,700	2,50,000	4	3
					UNDER POLITICAL AGENT, JEYPORE.					
12	Jeypore ...	Maharajah ...	Ram Singh ...	34	17	15,250	19,00,000	44,00,000	200	40
					UNDER POLITICAL AGENT, MARWAR.					
13	Jodhpore or Marwar ...	Maharajah...	Tukht Singh ...	49	17	35,000	15,00,000	30,00,000	200	30
					UNDER POLITICAL AGENT, BHURTPORE.					
14	Bhurtpore ...	Maharajah ...	Juswunt Singh ...	16	17	1,953	6,00,000	26,29,000	17	21
					UNDER POLITICAL AGENT, HARAOTIE.					
15	Boondee ...	Maharao Rajah	Ram Singh ...	58	17	2,291	2,24,000	5,00,000	10	9
16	Kotah ...	Maharao ...	Sutroo Sal ...	30	17	5,000	4,50,000	25,00,000	70	20
17	Jhallawar ...	Maharaj Rana	Pirthee Singh ...	35	15	2,500	2,26,000	15,00,000	20	15
					UNDER POLITICAL SUPERINTENDENT, SIROHI.					
18	Sirohi ...	Rao ...	Oomeid Singh ...	35	15	3,020	1,51,200	1,25,000	...	2
			*Total ...			1,20,112	89,22,100	2,34,48,000	895	228

N. B.—Including British Ajmere the area and population

* *N. B.*—Post Offices, Staging Bungalows, &c., in British

Agency Annual Report for years 1865-66 *and* 1866-67.

Police.		Hospitals and Dispensaries.	Staging Bungalows.	Post Offices.	Electric Telegraph Offices.	Principal Roads.	Principal Products and Remarks.
Cavalry.	Infantry, including Gunners and Police.						
600	1,600	...	.....	.....	...	.....	Bajree, wool, and ghee.
50	950	...	.....	.....	...	.....	Bajree and ghee.
50	400	...	.....	2	...	Ajmere and Agra Road	Wheat, barley, Indian corn, jowaree, and other grains and cotton.
75	1,800	1	...	1	...	.....	Ditto ditto.
1,500	6,500	3	...	7	...	Ulwur and Tijara Road ... ... Ulwur and Rajgurh Road ... ... Ulwur and Deig Road	Wheat, barley, Indian corn, jowaree, gram and cotton.
600	3,800	1	...	1	...	Jeypore and Deolie Road ... ... Neemuch and Nusseerabad Road through Neembahera.	Wheat, barley, Indian corn, jowaree, and other grains and cotton; also opium in Neembahera District.
300	1,700	...	2	1	...	Agra and Gwalior Road	Wheat, barley, Indian corn, jowaree, and cotton.
1,000	4,200	3	3	3	...	1. Oodeypore and Neemuch Road. 2. Neemuch and Nusseerabad Road.	Wheat, Indian corn, jowaree, sugar-cane, and opium.
50	300	...	...	...	...	.....	Wheat, Indian corn, and jowaree.
75	300	...	...	...	...	.....	Ditto ditto.
50	300	...	...	...	...	Pertabgurh and Banswara Road ...	Wheat, Indian corn, jowaree, sugar-cane, and opium.
1,450	9,800	7	8	17	1	Agra and Ajmere Road. Jeypore and Tonk Road.	Wheat, barley, Indian corn, jowaree, gram, and cotton.
1,600	4,500	3	5	5	...	Deesa and Nusseerabad Road. Jodhpore and Pallee Road. Jodhpore and Nagore Road.	Wheat, Indian corn, jowaree, bajree, ghee, and salt.
1,300	7,400	11	3	3	...	Agra and Ajmere Road. Bhurtpore to Deig.	Wheat, gram, Indian corn, jowaree, pulse, and cotton, also salt.
500	3,550	...	...	1	...	Boondee and Kotah Road. Boondee and Deolie Road.	Wheat, gram, Indian corn, jowaree, pulse, and cotton, also salt.
1,500	7,000	1	1	2	...	Kotah and Jhalra Patun Road.	Wheat, gram, Indian corn, jowaree, cotton, and opium.
500	6,500	1	...	1	...	Jhalra Patun and Augur Road.	Wheat, Indian corn, jowaree, cotton, and opium.
50	200	...	7	3	1	Deesa and Nusseerabad Road.	Wheat, Indian corn, bajree, and cotton.
11,250	60,800	31	29*	47*	2		

respectively amount to 1,22,784 square miles, and 93,48,368 souls.
Ajmere are not included.

(Sd.) W. F. Eden, *Col.*,
Agent, Govr. Genl.

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